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The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,268—New Series. BOMBAY :—THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1898.

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PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1898.
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	2nd April.
B.M.L. ORIENTAL	5284	J. Jephson	9th „
* GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	16th „
B.M.L. SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	23rd „
* CLYDE	4099	E. H. Gordon	30th „
B.M.L. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	7th May.
* GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	14th „
B.M.L. ARABIA	8000	J. L. Parfitt	21st „
† CLYDE	4099	E. H. Gordon	28th „
B.M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews.	4th June.
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	11th „
B.M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. A. Wheler	18th „
† CLYDE	4099	E. H. Gordon	25th „
B.M.L. ORIENTAL	5284	J. Jephson	2nd July.
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	9th „
B.M.L. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	16th „
† CLYDE	4099	E. H. Gordon	23rd „
B.M.L. ARABIA	8000	J. L. Parfitt	30th „
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	6th Aug.

The Steamers marked B.M.L. proceed to BRINDISI, MARSEILLES, PLYMOUTH and LONDON direct.

The Steamers marked * proceed to ADEN only and cannot take Passengers for Europe.

The Steamers marked † proceed to Aden, and Passengers tranship there to a Steamer for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

Heavy Baggage must be sent to the Ballard Pier before 9 A.M. on the day of sailing.

A Steam Tender leaves the Ballard Pier at NOON on the day of sailing, to convey Passengers on board, and only hand packages will be received. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with Port of Destination.

TO STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 29th March, 1898.

P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.

EXTRA STEAMER.

THE s. s. "THAMES," will SAIL as an Extra Steamer, for LONDON, calling at MARSEILLES, on FRIDAY, 29th April, at 5 P.M.

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N.Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

ACCELERATED SERVICE TO TRIESTE, VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
IMPERATRIX	T. Rassevich	4,213	1st April 1898.
IMPERATOR	T. Nicolich	4,119	1st May 1898.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck
TRIESTE, or VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

Steamers for BOMBAY leave TRIESTE on the 3rd, and BRINDISI, on the 4th of each month.

ORDINARY SERVICE TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
MARIA VALERIE	R. Mitis	4,235	12th April 1898.
GISELA	L. Brelich	4,253	12th May 1898.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE or VENICE	Rs. 275	Rs. 150

STEAMERS for BOMBAY LEAVE TRIESTE on the 20th of each month.

RETURN TICKETS

By either Accelerated or Ordinary Service to TRIESTE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class
AVAILABLE for 6 MONTHS	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
AVAILABLE for 12 MONTHS	Rs. 1060	Rs. 625

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothard's, and other Routes.

In connection with the Steamers' Tickets the Company issue now Railway Tickets to the Principal Towns of Austria and Germany, as well as Tickets by steamers of the "Norddeutscher Lloyd" (North German Lloyd) to ports of North and South America, Australia, &c. called at by their vessels.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE "MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO."

THE Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return by the Messageries Maritimes Co. at reduced fares. This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on 3 months' privilege leave.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, YOKOHAMA, KOBE.

Steamer	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	G. Wallusching.	4,409	21st April.

Connecting at COLOMBO with the S.S. AGLAIA to MADRAS and CALCUTTA on the Outward and Homeward voyage.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA,
Agent.

Sassoon House, 50, Church Gate Street, Bombay, March 26, 1898.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

FOUR WEEKLY DEPARTURE.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday.
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	12th April, 1898.
ERNEST SIMONS	5,707	DeManbenge	10th May 1898
INDUS	6,600	Vaquier	7th June 1898.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, JAPAN, AND AUSTRALIA.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
LAOS	4,000	Fiasolin	7th April.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.

Old Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

LATHAM & Co.,

BOMBAY : Esplanade Road. KARACHI : Bunder Road.

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United Kingdom—Weekly.
United States of America—Weekly.
Canada and British North America—Weekly.
Germany and Austria—Bi-monthly.
Italy—Fortnightly.
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand—Fortnightly.
China, Japan, and Straits Settlements—Weekly.
South, America—Monthly.
Aden—Weekly.
Regular Despatches to South Africa, West Indies via Southampton and Liverpool.

The above Despatches are by Mail steamers, but shipments are effected by cargo steamers sailing constantly for Continental Ports at Greatly Reduced Rates.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED).

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows :—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DWARKA," 1,695 tons, on the 1st April, 1898, on arrival of English Mail.

FOR KATHIAWAR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 29th March, 1898, at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder, Cutch Mandvie and Kurrachee in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHI AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "AMRA," 535 tons, on the 31st March, 1898 at 10 a.m., calling at Kurrachee, Jask, Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR ADEN, LAMOO, MOMBASSA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "GOA," 1,903 tons, on or about 20th April, 1898.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "PEMBA," 1,554 tons, on or about 2nd April, 1898.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR AND DELAGOA BAY.

S. S. "BANCOORA," 2,917 tons, on or about 8th April, 1898, calling at Seychelles, Mombassa, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Beira, and Delagoa Bay, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.

PASSENGERS and Cargo booked through from Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, or Rangoon via Singapore for all ports adjacent to the various Gold Fields. Fortnightly departures from Singapore.

For further particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 30th March, 1898.

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BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS,
BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

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CALCUTTA.

HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

CITY LINE.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL VIA KARACHI.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail.
S. S. CITY OF LONDON.	2,098	Geo. Whish.	About the 16th April, 1898.

BOMBAY TO ANTWERP VIA KARACHI.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail.
S. S. CITY OF SPARTA.	6,800	J. Black	About the 20th April, 1898.

THESE STEAMERS are lighted throughout with the Electric Light, and have all the latest improvements, carry a Surgeon and Stewardess. Two Berth Cabins on Deck.

Punkahs and every comfort for First-class Passengers. Apply to

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Agents.

Bombay, 26th March, 1898.

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PENINSULAIRE DE NAVIGATION A VAPEUR.

THE FIRST CLASS new Steamer "ILE DE LA REUNION," 3,700 tons, will be despatched from here about the FIRST WEEK in MAY to be followed by another Steamer about the end of MAY.

FIRST SALOON .... £25.

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KARACHI—Bunder Road.
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BOMBAY, Esplanade Road. KARACHI, Bunder Road.

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TRADE MARK.

ICE BOXES, TRAVELLERS', ZINC-LINED.

Sizes.	Cash. Rs.	a.	Credit. Rs.	a.
No. 0, 11 by 8½ by 8 inches	18	0	20	0
„ 1, 16 by 12 by 11 „	36	0	40	0
„ 2, 17 by 14 by 13 „	38	8	42	12

KENT'S ECONOMICAL ICE BOX.

Will hold six bottles of Wine, or twelve bottles of Soda Water, &c. Has a separate compartment for Ice, and two-quart earthenware glazed tanks which take water for table. Ten lbs. of Rough Ice daily is all that is required. Suitable for small Familes or Gentlemen in Chambers.

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Or Provision Preserver and Ice Chest, Single Lid only. 1879 Patent, Zinc-Lined.

W. D. H.	Cash. Rs.	a.	Credit. Rs.	a.
No. 1, 22 by 20 by 29	120	0	134	0
„ 2, 33 by 22 by 31	168	0	190	0

(Outside Measurement).

KENT'S BACHELOR'S REFRIGERATOR AND LARDER.

Has a compartment for Ice, a water tank, with Plated Tap, and Provision compartment, wherein Food, Fruit, Wine, &c., may be kept sweet for many days. It is Painted Oak. Fitted with Locks.

Size—26 in. high, 20 in. wide, 14 in. deep.
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LINED WITH ZINC.
VENTILATED.

W. D. H.	Cash. Rs.	a.	Credit. Rs.	a.
No. 1, 22 by 20 by 29	70	0	80	0
„ 2, 27 by 21 by 30	98	0	110	0
„ 3, 33 by 22 by 31	132	0	147	0

(Outside Measurement).

WATER TANK.

Lined with Patent Metal and fitted with Filter and Tap.
Patent Ventilator Refrigerator Cabinet.
Manufactured by Kent and Sons, London.
ZINC-LINED.
42 by 21 by 24 inches.
Cash......Rs. 210 ; Credit ...Rs. 234.

CABINET REFRIGERATOR.

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Cash......Rs. 120 ; Credit......Rs. 134

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47 by 34 by 23.
Cash......Rs. 198 ; Credit......Rs. 218

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W. D. H.	Cash.	Credit.
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KENT'S ORDINARY REFRIGERATOR OR PORTABLE ICE CHEST, LINED WITH ZINC.

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No. 1, 22 by 20 by 29	80	0	90	0
„ 2, 27 by 21 by 30	120	0	134	0

(Outside Measurement.)

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CHEMISTS TO H. E. LORD SANDHURST.

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Antiseptic, Prophylactic, and Preventive. Employed as a Perfect Safeguard against the attacks of PLAGUE, Malaria, Typhoid Fevers, and Cholera. Per box Ans. 4 only.

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THE following 1898 MODELS are Stocked and can be had for cash, or on the Instalment System.

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The Lady's Weldless "Kangaroo" or Indian Premier	275	0	25	0	„
The "Popular Premier Helical" Roadster	300	0	27	12	„
The "Premier" Helical Roadster Model "S"	330	0	30	8	„
The "Premier" Helical Road Racer Model "R"	330	0	30	8	„
The "Premier" Helical Roadster Model "P"	410	0	38	0	„
The "Premier" Helical Road Racer Model "O"	410	0	38	0	„
The "Premier" Helical Roadster Model "Z"	450	0	41	8	„
The "Premier" Helical "Polo" Standing Mount	450	0	41	8	„
The "Royal Premier" Helical Ladies' Safety	450	0	41	8	„
The "Premier" Helical Ladies' Safety Model "G"	410	0	38	0	„
The "Premier" Helical Ladies' Safety Model "H"	330	0	30	8	„
The Girls' "Premier" Helical Safety Model "N"	275	0	25	0	„
The Youths' "Premier" Helical Safety Model "M"	250	0	23	0	„

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AGENTS FOR THE NEW PREMIER CYCLE CO., LTD.,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

SPECIALTY IN WHISKY.

"AULD SCOTTIE."

GAINED THE HIGHEST AWARD AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, CHICAGO.

This was the only Whisky placed on the table at the St. ANDREW'S DINNERS AT CALCUTTA 1890-91—92-93, and the verdict was one of unanimous approval.

Sold at Rs. 2-4 per bottle, in Bombay, by all Wine and Spirit Merchants.

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CABIN TRUNKS, Rs. 12-8. | WARM SUITS, ULSTERS, DRESSING GOWNS. | FLANNEL SUITS, Rs. 30.

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TAILORS AND OUTFITTERS,
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BAHADUR CIGARS

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THE ART EXHIBITION will be CLOSED on THURSDAY EVENING, March 31.

Admission for THURSDAY, last day, 4 ANNAS.

NOTICE.

TENDERS will be received by the Collector of Land Revenue, Customs and Opium, at his office, at the Town Custom House, up to 12 noon, on MONDAY, the 22nd April, 1898, for the LEASE of the GOVERNMENT LAND and BUILDINGS at Mahim Causeway, known as "the Custom Master's Bungalow."

Particulars of the Lease can be learnt on application at the Collector's Office, and the premises can be inspected any day from 10 A.M., to 4 P.M., on application to the Preventive Officer at Mahim Fort.

W. T. MORISON,
Collector.

Bombay, Collector's Office, 29th March, 1898.

THE SASSOON SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Registered Office of the Company No. 8, Forbes Street, Fort, on WEDNESDAY, the 27th April, 1898, at 4 P.M., to transact the following business:—

1. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report, audited balance-sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending 31st December, 1897.
2. To declare a dividend.
3. To elect two Directors in place of those who retire by rotation but who are eligible for re-election.
4. To appoint two Auditors for the ensuing year and to fix their remuneration.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from Monday, the 25th April, to Monday, the 9th May, 1898, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
DOSSABHAI EDULJEE,
Secretary.

No. 8, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay, 30th March, 1898.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT FORT WILLIAM IN BENGAL.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

In the Matter of the Indian Companies Acts 1882 and 1895.

AND

In the Matter of the BENGAL SPINNING and WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO BE SOLD free from encumbrances by PUBLIC AUCTION, on MONDAY, the 23rd day of May, 1898, at No. 1, Clive Row, in Calcutta, at 12 o'clock noon, by Messrs. Sinclair Murray and Co., provided a sufficient sum is offered pursuant to an order of the said Court in the above matters, dated the 8th day of January, 1898.

As a first class going concern, all those Mill Premises situate at Mohesh Seerampore, together with the Buildings, Plant, Machinery, consisting of 18,392 Spindles and 200 Looms with ample preparing Machinery, Implements and Tools, Offices and Outhouses erected thereon, the property of the above Company. The purchaser of same to take over at a valuation to be made by an expert all the Loose Cotton, Cotton and Yarn on process of manufacturing and all the Baled Cotton, Cotton Waste Yarn Cloth and Stores lying in and upon the said Mill Premises and in the said Company's Calcutta Godowns and also all the furniture at present lying upon the Mill Premises. Full particulars of which will be given at the date of Auction.

The property will be sold subject to the conditions of sale which with the description and particulars of the property can be obtained from Reginald Murray, Esq., of No. 11, Hare Street, Calcutta, the Official Liquidator, or from Messrs. Orr Robertson and Burton, Solicitors, and Messrs. S. J. Leslie and Sons, Solicitors, of Old Post Office Street, Calcutta.

Dated 22nd March, 1898.

REG. MURRAY,
Official Liquidator.

WM. HAROLD EDWARDS,
Attorney for The Official Liquidator,
6, Old Post Office Street, Calcutta.

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NOTICES.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

THE BANK will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, the 31st instant, that day being a Public Holiday under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 24th March, 1898.

VACUUM OIL COMPANY,
OF
ROCHESTER AND OLEAN, N. Y., U. S. A.

I HAVE given POWERS of ATTORNEY to Mr. H. HANNA, who will act for me during my absence in China and Europe.

F. J. PARROTT,
Manager of Vacuum Oil Coy. for India and East.

Bombay, March 30th, 1898.

BANK OF BOMBAY.
SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of two per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 25th February, 1897.

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Second-hand LANDAUS, VICTORIAS and BROUGHAMS, by other well-known makers.

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Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs.5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on Steel. The new Gold and Steel "Movillette" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

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THE FUNDS
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TWENTY-THIRD EDITION.

MACLEAN'S GUIDE TO BOMBAY AND BOMBAY DIRECTORY FOR 1898.

WITH PORTRAIT OF
HIS HIGHNESS AGA KHAN,
THE HEAD OF THE KHOJA COMMUNITY.
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THE
BOMBAY DIRECTORY

Has been enlarged, verified, and carefully revised up to the day of going to Press. Special care has been taken that the local information shall meet the wants of commercial men and the general public.

Bombay Gazette Offices,
Albert Buildings, Esplanade, Fort.

BANKS.

CREDIT LYONNAIS.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

CAPITAL (fully paid) Fcs. 200,000,000=£8,000,000
RESERVE FUND......Fcs. 40,000,000=£1,600,000
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Apply for Rules to Head Office or Branches.

By Order of the Board,
C. BERESFORD,
Manager.

Bombay 20th July 18[illegible]

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HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergere.
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Manager.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL £800,000
RESERVE FUND............ £375,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

HEAD OFFICE.
HATTON COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON

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Calcutta.
Rangoon.
Colombo.
Penang.
Thaiping.
Deli (Sumatra).
Singapore.
Bangkok.
Kwala Lumpor.
Batavia.
Sourabaya.
Hongkong.
Shanghai.
Hankow.
Foochow.
Manila.
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Kobe.
Tientsin.

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T. FRASER,
Acting Agent.

Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital.............................$ 100,00,000
Reserve Fund.....................................$ 80,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors.........$ 100,00,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONGKONG:

T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*

London Bankers.—LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.

LONDON COMMITTEE:

E. F. DUNCANSON, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.)
WM. ANASTASIUS JONES, Esq. (Director of the London and County Banking Co., Limited).
F. D. BARNES, Esq. (Managing Director, P. & O. S. N. Co.)
G. E. NOBLE, Esq., 37 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, W.)

EWEN CAMERON, } Managers.
JOHN WALTER. }

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FOOCHOW.
HAMBURG.
HANKOW.
HIOGO.
ILOILO.
LYONS.
MANILA.
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NEW YORK.
PEKING.
PENANG.
RANGOON.
SAIGON.
SANFRANCISCO
SINGAPORE.
SOURABAYA.
TIENTSIN.
YOKOHAMA

BOMBAY AGENCY.
CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000; but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Are received at 4½ per cent. for 12 months, and for shorter periods, on terms which may be learnt on application.

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W. B. THOMSON,
Acting Agent.

47, Church Gate Street, Bombay, and at 51, Dalhousie Square, South Calcutta.

BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £200,000

HEAD OFFICE:
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BRANCHES:

Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

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The Bank receives Deposits fixed for 1 year at 4½ per cent interest, and for shorter periods, at rates to be ascertained on application.

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DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ....Yens 12,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL .... " 9,000,000
RESERVE FUND .... " 6,390,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.
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Sirdar's Palace, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.

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BY JOHN O'NEILL.

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"Not all books on cosmic symbolism have so clearly defined an object as this, Mr. O'Neill, who seems to have the mythologies of all nations at his fingers' ends, strives to show that in almost all rites, institutions, legends, or monuments, we have reminiscences of a 'heaven's-worship of the very remotest and most faded antiquity,' beside which the solar-worship of other theorists is a thing of yesterday.'—The "National Observer," May 5, 1894.

John O'Neill's "Night of the Gods"—"M. O'Neill a mis comme epilogue a celluxeux volume un passage de Georges Dandin, de Moliere—Lubin: 'Morgue voila une sotte nuit, d'etre si noir que cela! Je voudrois bien savoir Monsieur, vous qui etes savant, pourquoi il ne fait point jour la nuit—Clitandre: 'C'est une grande question, et qui est difficile, Tu est curieux, Lubin—Lubin: 'Oui, si j'avois etudie, j'aurois ete songer a des choses ou on n'a jamais songe.

"M. O'Neill a ete hante par le meme reve que Lubin, mais il a sur lui l'avantage d'avoir beaucoup etudie, beaucoup lu et d'avoir une riche imagination. . . . Si M. O'Neill ne dissipe pas la nuit des origines de la vie religieuse de l'humanite, il fait jaillir a mainte reprises du choc des elements qu'il a assembles, des eclairs qui ouvrent un instant des perspectives interessantes et nouvelles sur le chaos primitif."—"Revue de l'Histoire des Religions, Janvier—Fevrier, '95.

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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 55m., Sun sets, 6h. 13m. High water, 4-12m., 6-27a. Low water, 11-0m.
Banks closed: Hindu holiday.
Bombay Art Society's Exhibition, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Bombay Light Horse, point-to-point races and gymkhana, Santa Cruz.
Royal Bombay Yacht Club race.
Bombay Branch, National Indian Association, adjourned meeting, 6 p.m.
Music at the Secretariat, 5 p.m.

Bombay Branch, National Indian Association.—The adjourned meeting of the above branch will be held at the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Candy's bungalow, Malabar Hill, at 6 o'clock, this evening. The election of the officers and members of the executive committee for the current year will take place.

Group Photograph of Municipal Councillors—The group photograph of Municipal Councillors will be taken in the compound of the Municipal Office, this afternoon. About fifty-five members have expressed their desire to join the sitting. The Municipal Commissioner, the Municipal Secretary, the Executive Engineer, and the Health Officer have been also been requested to join the sitting.

Reported Theft at Borah Bazaar Street.—Amrat, a married woman, residing on the second floor of a house at Borah Bazaar Street, has reported to the police that she locked the door of her room on Tuesday afternoon and went out. On her return home at 5 o'clock she found the lock on the door opened by means of a duplicate key and the place entered. On an examination of the room she discovered three boxes forced open, and gold ornaments, valued at Rs. 126-4, and Rs. 86-12 in notes and cash abstracted therefrom.

Theft at Nagdavie Street.—Ebrahim Haji Sherif, a timber merchant, residing at Nagdavie Street, has reported to the police that after taking his meal, on Monday evening, he placed his sudria, containing currency notes to the amount of Rs. 245, on one of the poles of his cot and then retired to bed. On looking for the sudria on the following morning, he found it missing with its contents. As the complainant had closed the door of the room from the inside before going to bed, it is believed that the thief must have entered the place through an open window facing the window of an adjoining vacant house.

Music at the Secretariat (Art Exhibition).—The String Band of the Bombay Volunteer Rifles, under the direction of Signor Lagattolla, will play the following programme, at the Secretariat this evening, at 5 o'clock:—

March	Tivoli	L Schroder
Overture	Fest	Richter
Valse	Starlight Night	Bucalossi
Selection	Coster Songs	J Crook
Gavotte	Old and New	The Bonheur
Valse	Dream on the Ocean	Gung'l
Polka	Click-Clack	E Boegetti
Galop	Fizz	H J Tinney

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Importing Persian Opium.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, Abas Mahomed and another were charged with importing Persian opium contrary to law. Mr. Rustim Pestonji Jehangir, Assistant Customs Collector, said that in consequence of certain information the accused were arrested by Inspector Gandhi of the Opium Department, and Police Inspector Manley, yesterday morning, when they were found in possession of thirty-one tolas of Persian opium. The first accused was fined Rs. 100, and the second discharged.

Death of a Sanskrit Pandit.—Pandit Sevaklal Kursondas Varma died on the 29th instant at Ooran, where he had gone for a change of air. He was president of the Aryan Social Union, vice-president of the Arya Samaj, Society of the Cow and Cattle Protecting Society, and member of many public institutions in this city. He was a good scholar of Vedas, Upnishadas, and Six Philosophies, etc. He was a disciple of the late Pandit Swami Dayanand Saraswati. It was owing to his Sanskrit learning that the above societies flourished. He leaves after him his widow, four sons, and a large number of relations and friends. He was about fifty-six years of age.

Suffering and Suicide.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Dongree Street, touching the death of Sydoobai, a Hindu widow, aged forty years, residing alone at the 8th Lane, Kamatipura. She had been unwell, and was treated at the J. J. Hospital for two months as an in-door patient. After she had left the hospital, she would not take any medicine, often saying that life was a burden to her. On Tuesday morning she left home, and about 9 o'clock she was seen jumping into the Sas Tod Tank by a woman, who immediately raised an alarm. The tank was dragged by the police and the body was recovered in the afternoon. There were no marks of violence on it. A verdict of suicide was returned by the jury.

Fatal Fall into a Ship's Hold.—About 8 o'clock, yesterday morning, the dead body of a Hindu labourer, named Dhurma Baba, aged sixty years, who was employed, along with a number of labourers, on board the steamship Picciole, now lying in the harbour, was found lying on the ballast in No. 1 hold. The police were informed, and an inquiry was instituted. It appeared that the deceased worked on board the steamer during the previous day, and after knocking off from work in the evening, it is believed he went back to the hold to get something, when he was seized with a fit and fell into the hold, where he was found dead on the next day by the chief officer of the ship. The body of the deceased was then conveyed to the Bori Bunder police station, where Mr. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday morning. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

Re-opening of Cavel Church.—The little Church of Cavel, belonging to the Portuguese jurisdiction, was originally a small chapel, built in 1794, which some years later, after undergoing considerable alteration and enlargement, became, in 1801, the present parish church of that district. Until the constitution of the regular Catholic Hierarchy in India it continued subject to the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Goa, but on the establishment of the Bishopric of Damaun it passed, under the terms of the Concordat between the Holy See and Portugal, to the jurisdiction of his Lordship the Bishop of Damaun, who is its present prelate. After nearly a century the Church had begun of late to show signs of being very badly in need of repairs. With the sanction of his Lordship these were begun some two months ago, and have now so far advanced that the Church, which has remained closed since the beginning of the last month, will be re-opened for worship on Friday next. Extensive repairs and renewals have been carried out in the interior of the building, which is now looking as good as new. On Friday next, High Mass at 6-30 a.m. will be said in honour of Our Lady of Seven Dolours, and in the evening there will be solemn Vespers, at which the Bishop of Damaun has promised to be present, and to deliver an address.

Pelting a European Mill Manager.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Pundhari Narayen, a Hindu mill-hand, aged about twenty-five years, was charged by Superintendent Lee Smith with doing an act so rash and negligent as to endanger the safety of the public, under section 336 of the Indian Penal Code, in that he threw stones at Mr. Samuel Sterling Newton, a mill manager, residing in a bungalow at Chinchpoogly. It appears that Mr. Newton was seated on the verandah of his bungalow about 7 o'clock, on Tuesday evening, when three stones were thrown at him, all of which fell on the verandah. Some more stones were thrown, but they all fell into the compound. Mr. Newton left the verandah and went into the compound to see what the matter was and where the stones came from, but he could find nothing. At this moment the accused, who was drunk, was observed by a witness, Gomaji, throwing stones in Mr. Newton's compound. The accused in his defence pleaded intoxication. The magistrate, in disposing of the case, remarked that the accused was very drunk and began throwing stones at Mr. Newton's bungalow. In all five stones were thrown, three of which fell on the verandah where Mr. Newton was seated. The stones produced in court seemed to be dangerous missiles and were very likely to endanger human lives. Such acts of violence on the part of the ignorant people must be put a stop to. Had it not been for the fact that the accused had been under the influence of liquor, the court would have inflicted on him the maximum sentence allowable under the Code. The court ordered the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 50 or in default to suffer one month's rigorous imprisonment.

De bene Examination of a Witness.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Mr. W. Webbs, Third Presidency Magistrate, recorded evidence, of Mr. Merwanji Rustomji Dalal in connection, with the case in which Mr. Shavakhshaw Hormusji Billimoria has preferred a charge of defamation and using a forged document against Mr. Cursetji Dinshaw Bolton. Mr. Lowndes, barrister-at-law, appeared for the complainant, while Mr. D. D. Davar, barrister-at-law, represented the defendant. Mr Dalal wascalled as a witness for the defence, and he was examined "de bene esse." The witness detailed at some length the negotiations he had carried on with the parties for certain claims in dispute, and said that he gave credit to the complainant of Rs. 300 in his (witness') personal account with him, and of Rs. 300 out of his own firm's account with the complainant. The settlement was effected by witness in conjunction with Mr. Ruttonji M. Ratnagur, who carried on negotiations directly with the parties. He and Mr. Ratnagur were both friends of Mr. Bolton, and were related to the Billimorias. The accused and his family did not like that monies should have been given to the complainant for the settlement, but they eventually allowed him to settle the matter. Cross-examined by Mr. Lowndes, witness said that he credited the sum to the complainant on the 3rd December. Witness felt surprised when he heard that the complainant had passed a letter of apology to the defendant. On the 23rd December, witness went to Matheran, where he saw the accused at the railway station. When talking about the letter the accused informed witness that he had been sold by his solicitors, that as the letter had gone into the hands of the complainant it might be changed, and he, therefore, wished that witness should tell Nadirshaw and Dadabhoy (brothers of the complainant, who had got the letter from the accused) not to take any proceedings in respect of the letter, until witness's return from Matheran. Witness thought that the accused had committed a mistake with regard to the letter of apology. Witness formed the opinion that the complainant was not likely to sign such a letter. Witness having been re-examined, the case was adjourned for further enquiry.

DEATH OF A GUJERATI JOURNALIST.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Maneckji Burjorjee Menocherhomjee, editor and proprietor of the "Bombay Summachar" newspaper, which took place at his residence in [illegible]ere Road, on Tuesday evening, after a very short illness. The deceased had been a journalist for the greater part of his life, and throughout his journalistic career maintained the dignity of the profession. Although he led a quiet and unobtrusive life, seldom or never mixing in public movements, he contributed largely by his writings to promote the social moral, and intellectual advancement of his countrymen. He showed much enterprise and ability in the conduct of his paper and kept it free of the personalities which form the besetting sin of low class native journals. In 1861, Mr. Manockjee was appointed editor of the "Dost-e-Hind, a Gujerati weekly started by Mr. Perozshah Meherjee. In 1864, the latter gentleman started another Gujerati weekly, called the "Suriodya," and of this paper also Mr. Manockjee was appointed the editor. In July 1866, Mr. Manockjee purchased the "Bombay Summachar," with which was amalgamated the Union Press, owned by Mr. N. R. Ranina, and both gentlemen became the proprietors of the "Bombay Summachar," Mr. Manockjee continuing to be the editor of the paper. In January 1868, they started the "Loke Mitra," a Gujerati weekly, which contained much of the important matter published in the daily newspaper. In 1886 the deceased converted the weekly into a bi-weekly paper, and has continued the publication up to date. In 1869, the two partners published a commercial paper under the name of the "Daily Gujerati," but the the project proved unprofitable and was abandoned after six months. In November 1871 the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Manockjee became the sole editor and proprietor of the "Bombay Summachar" establishment. After a short period, the deceased started a comic Gujerati weekly under the name of the "Datterdoo," which was about six years ago converted into the "Hindi Punch," an Anglo-Gujerati comic journal. Mr. Manockjee was very fond of Hindustani music, and commenced the publication of an excellent collection of "gazals," or Urdu songs, in monthly parts, which were afterwards published in five volumes, forming the best and largest compenduim of Urdu songs which has ever been published for the benefit of Gujerati readers. He published several other useful and interesting Gujerati books at his press. In 1885, Mr. Manockjee was nominated a Justice of the Peace. He leaves behind him a son and a daughter and a large circle of relations and friends.

A Parsee contributor writes:—The cruel hand of death has suddenly removed from amongst Parsee journalists a veteran writer of a rare stamp and acknowledged merits. In the death of Mr. Maneckji Burjorji Minocherhomji, the editor and proprietor of the "Bombay Summachar," the leading Gujerati journal, native journalism has sustained a distinct and irreparable loss. I feel myself quite unable to do that justice to the memory of a meritorious journalist which his sterling qualities both of head and heart demand. I can only offer a feeble tribute of respect and admiration to him. The deceased was a man of retiring disposition; but nevertheless his influence was widely and greatly felt. Consistency was the principle trait of his life; and to the last, he was a staunch supporter of the liberal views of politicians of the advanced school. A man of strong and fiery temper, Mr. Maneckji manifested a cool, calm, and conciliatory spirit in his writings, the force of which could not be resisted. He had discriminating and sound common sense, with a logical turn of mind and his articles had a ring of downright earnestness. Having a facile pen and being an extensive reader he was clear in the expression of his thoughts which he never wrapped up in cowardly innuendos. Though he studiously abstained from taking part in political or social movements, he was a staunch supporter of the Congress. He freely hurled the shafts of sarcasm towards the opponents of his views. He was a man of great capacity and possessed exceptional knowledge of European politics which always stood him in good stead. His articles on the Turkish question and the frontier disputes were read with great interest, especially by Mahomedans, upon whom they produced a powerful effect. The deceased was a man of very independent spirit and often gave free vent to his mind in forcible, if not passionate, language; which was regarded—wrongly ofcourse—as vindictiveness on his part, and this false notion sometimes gained strength from the fact that he was very hot-tempered and it was not an easy task either to control him or to make him change his views. But he had strong powers of reasoning; and it cannot be gainsaid that he silently worked for his countrymen and founded his permanent monument in the shape of his writings the effects of which will long remain. The growth of the native press can be attributed to the taste he created for reading, and the healthy rivalry he carried on with other journals, which greatly stimulated the growth of the Vernacular Press. His was a life spent in looking to the growth of his own press and rendering service to his countrymen. He laboured till the end of his life and practically died in harness. His career is a striking illustration of what industry, perseverance, foresight, and singleness of purpose can accomplish. The deceased had a great natural fondness for native music; and he did something to develop a taste for the divine art by issuing from his office various chief publications on music. It cannot be denied that being a shrewd business man he had on occasions to set his sail for the passing breeze of popularity. He knew the drift of public opinion, and took care to take time by the forelock. But he was a most independent, energetic, and sincere worker in the public cause, and his death is to be deplored by his admirers and opponents alike.

BOMBAY THIRTEENTH EXTRA MEETING.

SATURDAY 2ND APRIL.

ENTRIES.

THE NEW STAKES—5 furlong.

Mr William's g a p Exile
Mr Artin A Essajie's c a p Chester
Mr M Sidick's b a p Magistrate

THE TRIAL STAKES—½ mile.

Mr William's g a p Exile
H H Aga Khan's b e m Milkmaid
Major Cowan's King David
Major Ross b e m Geisha
Mr Pallonji Hormoji's b a p Caledonia

THE ASCOT STAKES—7 furlongs.

Mr Lyndon's b a p Royal
Mr Ali bin Talib's b a p Malta
Mr A M Bushari's g a g Liverpool
Mr J R's b a g Zoohair
Mr P Fischer's c a g Governor
Mr Jusafally Mahomed's b a p Driver
Mr R B's b a p Romeo

THE EPSOM PLATE—1½ mile.

Capt Peyton's br a g Topthorne
Mr A M Bushari's g a g Chanda
Mr Adam Yar Mahomed's b a h Chieftain
Mr Adam Yar Mahomed's g a h Maurice
Mr Fahad bin Saif's b a p Taisseer
Mr Franklin's bl a g President
Mr H Jamsetjee's b a g Manilla
Shaik Esa Khalifa's b a g Nepal
A Tamimi's g a g Rubdan

THE NEW MARKET PLATE—1 mile.

Messrs Franklin and Gordon's b aus p Tyro
Mr Franklin's bl a g President
Mr A M Bushari's g a g Liverpool
Mr R P Kapadia's c aw g Freddie
Mr R B's b aus m Winnal

SELLING RACE—6 furlongs.

Mr William's g a p Exile
S A W's g a g Midnight
Mr Pallonji Hormosji's g a p Euphrates

EXTRA RACES.

(1) CONSOLATION STAKES—Rs. 200. Handicap for Arab and C. B. Galloways—Distance 6 furlongs.
(2) THE BEDOUIN STAKES—Rs. 200. For Arabs landed since 1st August, 1897—W. A.
PENALTIES—Winners race value, Rs. 180. Once 4lbs, twice 7lbs, ofterner 10lbs.
ALLOWANCE—Galloways, 7lbs. Ponies (13-2 and under). 7lbs extra.
ENTRIES—Close at 12 noon, Thursday, 31st March at Office, W. I. T. C. Byculla Club.
Handicap to be published 8 a.m. Friday, 1st April.
Terms—Prospectus 2nd April, apply.
Unless 6 Entrees on Separate interests Stewards, reserve option to cancel either or both above races.

DIVINE SERVICE.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.

LENTAL SERVICE.—THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

7 p.m.—Litany and Address by Rev. Father Bullen S. S. J.

A Scotch planter in Kulu—who, by the way, has recently found gold in Waziri Rupi in the Kangra district and sent some specimens home—went into the Palanpur Post Office some time ago to despatch a telegram to Glasgow. Quoth the babu in charge: "Glasgow, Glasgow, is there a telegraph office at Glasgow, Sir?" And then Caledonia grew both stern and wild.

DINNER TO MR. R. D. MEHTA, C.I.E.

Mr. R. D. Mehta, to whose name local interest is attached, being originally a Bombayite, was given a complimentary dinner on Thursday last in the pavilion of the Hotel Continental, Calcutta, on his being invested with the insignia of the C. I. E. Europeans, Parsees, Mahomedans and Hindus all joined in the dinner party, at which Mr. L. Pugh presided. This dinner was only preliminary to an entertainment which the orthodox class of Hindu and Mahomedan friends propose to give him in a manner in keeping with their custom.

In proposing the toast of Mr. Mehta, Mr. Pugh said: Gentlemen,—I now rise to propose the toast of the evening, the health of our worthy friend Mr. R. D. Mehta, whom the Government of India has lately honoured with a Companionship of the Order of the Indian Empire. We have met here this evening to congratulate him on that honour, and I am sure that we do so sincerely. Speaking for myself I feel proud at putting the toast, for I have known our honoured guest for many years—known him very much to his credit. I have met him constantly in his many public capacities and on public platforms, and with no desire to offer fulsome praise, I say without fear of contradiction, that I have never come across a straighter man—I used the word straighter in its widest sense. I have always found him a strict business man whose integrity has been above suspicion and a man of sound intelligence and common sense. He came to Calcutta a couple of years before I did, and we have been close acquaintances, nay friends, for nigh upon twenty-five years. He commenced his education in Bombay, and improved it when he came to Calcutta, this to the credit of this city.

A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS.

After his migration to Calcutta and the finishing touches to his education he travelled to China and afterwards to England and the Continent, and while abroad he set himself steadily to a commercial training, which stood him in good stead in his subsequent career. On his return to this country he took up his father's business. He established the Empress of India Cotton Mills, and his management of them has been most creditable. He is largely responsible for several other successful public enterprises which have benefited a large contingent of the poorer classes of this province.

In recent years he paid several visits to England and he was the only member of the Parsee community on the deputation that went to Simla to present to the Viceroy the address from the Princes and people of Bengal to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. His sons have and are being educated in England, and I see opposite to me one of his sons who I trust will one day be a distinguished member of the Bar of the Calcutta High Court. I am not going to weary you and myself by detailing the several learned and other societies with which out friend has been associated. He stands high among Freemasons, I do not belong to that craft and cannot vouch for his work on it; but I can speak of the manner in which he discharged his duties as Sheriff of this great city.

AS SHERIFF.

I see before me the gentleman (Mr. W. S. Watkins) who acted as his under Sheriff. The office of Sheriff is peculiar to Calcutta. It is a link between the official and non-official communities of the city. For years past, especially during Mr. Mehta's shrievalty, various attempts have been made to do away with the office, some of the advocates for its abolition going so far as to urge that a Nazir of the High Court would be competent to fill the appointment and perform the extensive and important duties attached to it. The proposition has never found, and I hope never will find, favour with the non-official community. Be that as it may, Mr. Mehta during his term of office resisted, and successfully resisted, its abolition. For five years we have heard nothing more about the matter, but it is sure to crop up again. The opposition will next urge that the office should be abolished because there is no Sheriff in Madras. I do not know the routine in Madras, but I know this we cannot do without a Sheriff here, and I hope that when next the question of the abolition is raised a better argument will be adduced.

I have said that Mr. Mehta and I have oftentimes met on public platforms. We have on occasions differed in our opinions on the matters discussed, but were oftener at one in thought and argument. I remember how we both, some 12 or 13 years ago, protested against the Simla exodus of the Government of India. That agitation is now commencing to bear fruit, and the time will yet come when the absence from Calcutta or the heads of every department of the Government of India for more than six months of the year will be a thing of the past. The next important public discussion in which we agreed was the meeting to protest against the Jury Notification Bill. This, while Mr. Mehta was Sheriff. The Hon. Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee also spoke very forcibly at that meeting. At this meeting we worked together to raise certain sections of the community to the position in which their better placed countrymen were consigned. Now what is the secret of our gathering here this evening? How or why is it that Hindus, Mahomedans, Parsees, and Europeans have assembled here to do honour to one man? The secret is the common bond of sympathy between all of us. I can only readily recall one other case of such popularity. I mean that of the late Mr. S. E. J. Clarke who was a notable link between the several communities and was highly trusted by them.

NEED FOR SYMPATHY.

What we in India need, and need very forcibly, is more sympathy among its peoples. Not mere talk but real practical sympathy, an united effort of all its divergent peoples to act for the common good and raise the country to that position among the nations which it deserves. (Applause.) So, gentlemen, let us drink to the health of Mr. R. D. Mehta, and wish him long life and health, and increasing prosperity. (Applause.)

The Hon. Nawab Syed Amir Hossein said: Before you drink to the toast, gentlemen, I desire to say a few words—and a very few words. Some of you may remember that it was once said by Sir Steuart Bayley that those who knew that it was intended that they should make speeches after dinner, generally lost their appetites. I have not lost mine; but that may be due to the fact that I do not intend to make a speech. On behalf of the Mohamedan community of Calcutta I congratulate Mr. Mehta on the honour that Government has conferred upon him, and I sincerely trust that he will live long to bear the distinction he wears that he may attain to still further honours, which I am sure are in store for him.

The Hon. Surendra Nath Banerji said: I am not going to make a long speech. As I am a personal friend of Mr. Mehta's of long standing a long panegyric from me would be entirely out of place, for it would be set down to the bias of personal friendship, and I am unwilling to mar the effect of this demonstration by the importation of personal feeling. Before I speak to the toast which concerns my distinguished friend, I should like to express my strong sympathy with the observations which have fallen from my friend Mr. Pugh. No matter whether we are Hindus or Mohamedans, or Christians, or Parsis, we are all subjects of a common sovereign, living under the same laws and institutions, and we are bound to stand shoulder to shoulder, forgetful of what little differences may exist among us, for the maintenance, and if need be, the expansion of our common rights and privileges. We all rejoice that Mr. Mehta has been honoured. He fully deserves the distinction. He and I worship in the same political temple. We profess the same political creed; but every now and then my friend slips out to pay his homage and render his obeisance to the false gods of an exploded faith. Then we fight but we fight as friends and we make up our differences and settle ourselves down to our old ways of friendship. This speaks volumes in favour of the large-hearted toleration of my friend, and might I not claim that it is some testimony also in favour of a similar feeling on my part. I desire to point out that Mr. Mehta is the first Parsi gentleman in the metropolis of India who has been decorated.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PARSIS.

What a wonderful people these Parsis are! I wish we could approach them in their intelligence, their enterprise, their keen instincts of business, above all in their abounding philanthropy; what nobler monument could there be to their disinterested patriotism than the fact that there is not a single Parsi beggar anywhere in India? Sir, I do not know the secret of conferring titles. My friends, Nawab Syed Amir Hossein, smiles. He may know it, for he is a high official in the confidence of the Government; but it is understood that the Star of India is bestowed on officials and the Indian Empire on the friends of the officials. But whatever the principle may be, when a title is bestowed upon a man like Mr. Mehta, who is popular alike with the Government and the people, it must be said that the title has been rightly bestowed. It is always a difficult task to please both parties. We know what the scriptural saying is. But Mr. Mehta has performed this impossible feat, and I am sure that I give expression to the sentiment which is predominant in our minds at the present moment, when I hope that he may be long spared to enjoy the distinction which he has merited; that he may continue to shed lustre on the great community to which he belongs, and win for himself, in an unstinted measure, the esteem of the Government and the applause of his countrymen. (Applause.)

Mr. Cranenburgh, on behalf of the Police Court Bar, and Khan Bahadur Badrudin Hyder having spoken to the toast, it was drunk by the assembly with great heartiness.

Mr. Mehta in acknowledging the toast said: Mr. Chairman,—I desire to thank you, Sir, and my friends assembled here most sincerely for the great honour you have done me by proposing my health, and by so cordially accepting the toast. Great as is undoubtedly the honour which Her Most Gracious Majesty has conferred upon me, far greater, Sir, is the gratification which I feel at the congratulations of my friends. Their approbation has enhanced the value of the distinction which the Government has bestowed upon me, and the proceedings of this evening will be with me a cherished recollection, and I trust that in the days to come I shall continue to merit the sympathy and good-will of those, whom I see near me around this festive board; for the highest reward which any one of us may aspire to, next to the approbation of his own conscience, is the applause of those whom he has learnt to love and respect. Your demonstration of to-night will be an incentive to me to do what little lies in my power in furtherance of those public interests upon which the well-being of the community, and the prosperity of the Government alike depend. I do not regard the distinction as a personal one. It is the meet reward of all who do work, which is beneficial to the community and which meets with the approval of the Government.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M., ON WEDNESDAY THE 30TH OF MARCH, 1898.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Calicut standard, reduced to the same temperature M° and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity at lat. 45.
2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the past 24 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.
3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shed with open sides and a thatched or grass roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a. m.
4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing rates of the actual amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

Stations.	Pressure, 8 A.M.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Rate per hour.	Temperature in shade. Maximum of past 24 hours.	Temperature in shade. Minimum of past 24 hours.	Humidity, 8 A.M.	Rainfall. Past 24 hours.	Rainfall. Since 1st Nov. to date.	Rainfall. Variation, 1st Nov. to date.
Lahore	29·818	Calm	2	96·6	63·2	61	...	4·54	+1·18
Sirsa	29·837	W	4	100·3	63·3	33	...	1·28	—0·61
Delhi	29·807	WNW	7	97·2	73·9	26	...	2·91	+0·13
Agra	29·843	NW	7	99·5	69·6	27	...	2·71	+1·42
Cawnpore	29·835	WSW	5	100·4	65·5	38	...	1·47	...
Allahabad	29·819	WSW	7	100·6	65·9	36	...	2·39	+0·46
Jhansi	29·856	SW	3	101·6	73.2	27	...	1·92	+0·39
Jacobabad	29·768	SE	4	106·4	6 ·1	40	...	0·43	—0·62
Karachi	29·878	W	11	89·9	72·5	72	...	0·43	—1·08
Jeypore	29·883	NNW	4	101·6	66·5	26	...	0·56	—1·05
Ajmere	29·878	NW	2	99·4	65·7	31	...	0·22	—1·10
Deesa	29·874	N	9	105·1	76·6	23	...	0·16	—0·37
Ahmedabad	29·868	NW	3	106·1	73·1	27	...	0·78	...
Bhuj	29·902	NW	10	102·8	66·9	48	...	0·13	—0·26
Rajkot	29·883	N	7	102·9	64·9	64	...	0·30	—0·23
Ghadechi	29·867	NW	7	103·6	71·8	23	...	0·29	...
Veraval	29·871	NNW	9	82·1	66·3	63	...	0·14	...
Neemuch	29·887	NNE	7	100·7	71·6	51	...	0·54	—0·49
Indore	29·895	NE	1	100·7	68·6	48	...	0·56	—0·47
Saugor	29·840	SSE	4	99·3	75·1	22	...	1·41	—1·66
Jubbulpore	29·843	SSE	8	101·0	65·7	35	...	3·35	+0·75
Hoshangabad	29·847	Calm	...	104·1	74·2	32	...	10·50	—1·45
Khandwa	29·860	Calm	5	106·7	73·6	15	...	0·09	—1·28
Raipur	29·871	Calm	5	102·9	74·6	38	...	1·72	—0·48
Nagpur	29·843	ESE	4	100·2	76·6	31	...	2·64	—0·33
Amraoti	29·840	E	4	105·3	80·3	30	...	0·70	—1·33
Akola	29·828	E	5	95·9	80·8	20	...	0·17	—2·65
Surat	29·889	NE	3	104·1	71·1	36	...	1·68	+1·43
Malegaon	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Bombay	30·876	Calm	6	86·8	76·0	81	...	0·17	—0·75
Poona	29·854	NW	11	104·5	67·9	29	...	0·07	—1·64
Ahmednagar	29·823	NNE	1	100·8	72·9	59	...	0·01	...
Aurangabad	29·823	NE	4	105·0	79·2	22	...	00·7	...
Sholapur	29·820	SW	5	103·7	76·0	38	...	0·32	—1·89
Ratnagiri	29·877	Calm	4	88·4	77·9	73	...	0·45	—0·35
Belgaum	29·878	WNW	...	95·7	63·9	90	...	1·79	—0·83
Goa	29·889	NE	7	90·9	79·4	75	...	0·49	...
Karwar	29·872	ENE	4	88·8	76·5	76	...	0·40	—2·42
Mangalore	29·892	C	3	90·3	78·9	69	...	0·01	—3·72
Calicut	29·876	NW	8	91·7	78·5	68	...	2·98	—4·19
Cochin	29·870	N	M	94·5	78·6	76	0·03	6·34	—5·84
Bangalore	29·913	WSW	5	84·8	67·8	88	...	0·50	—4·47
Secunderabad	29·245	E	6	103·2	72·5	57	...	0·91	—2·00
Masulipatam	29·872	SSE	[illegible]	92·6	74·6	77	...	1·75	—6·79
Bellary	29·868	N	4	102·7	69·7	52	...	0·75	—1·91
Cuddapah	29·846	SE	L	106·2	[illegible]	66	...	3·46	—2·54
Madras	29·891	SSE	7	90·0	74·5	81	...	9·67	—10·32
Coimbatore	29·892	E	2	98·4	73·6	82	0·15	3·93	—2·06
Trichinopoly	29·870	S	5	102·1	78·3	68	...	3·29	—6·34
Negapatam	29·880	SE	13	91·0	75·9	76	...	11·12	—19·77
Colombo	29·869	SSE	6	93·0	76·0	75	...	29·02	—0·99
Aden (30th)	29·906	E	..	82·8	76·9	71	...	0·40	—2·06

In column "Wind, Rate per hour," L=Light, M=Moderate F=Fresh, S=Strong, H=Heavy.

SUMMARY.

With the exception of a brisk rise at Cawnpore, Bhuj, Deesa, Khandwa, Raipur and Bangalore, the barometer has been steady or has changed only slightly over the whole country. Readings are highest in Mysore and lowest in the north. Pressure is nearly uniform. Winds are south-westerly to north-westerly in the Punjab, North-West Provinces, Lower Sind, Rajputana, Gujarat, and at Sholapur, Belgaum, Calicut, Cochin and Bangalore; and south-easterly to north-easterly at most of the other stations. The force has been generally light. This morning the wind velocity was 16 miles an hour at Ahmednagar and Karachi, and 12 at Neemuch. The maximum temperature is from 6° to 10° in excess of the normal at Sirsa, Jacobabad and Jeypore, and the minimum 9° in excess at Deesa and 10° at Akola. The temperature in the shade was 107° at Khandwa and the lowest 63° at Sirsa. Humidity changes are unimportant, and the skies are cloudy at Nagpur, Amraoti, Surat, Karwar, Cochin, Masulipatam and Madras. Rain in light showers has fallen at Coimbatore and a few drops at Cochin. The weather is generally fine and settled over the whole country.

G. L. TOWERS,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, MARCH 30.

Wednesday: The barometer has risen briskly to rapidly along the foot of the hills and over north-east India and changed slightly elsewhere. In Upper Sind and Baluchistan pressure is inclined to fall and a shallow depression has appeared, while over the Central parts of the country and over Central Burma there are also very shallow depressions, but in general the barometric readings are exceedingly uniform. The wind is south-easterly on the Madras coast, south-westerly on the Bengal coast and north-westerly in Rajputana and north Bombay, elsewhere the directions are very variable. The temperature has risen slightly over the Punjab and Madras and fallen slightly in the North-West Provinces, but elsewhere the changes are small and unimportant. The mean temperature remains low over the Bay and over the centre of the Peninsula, but elsewhere the heat is excessive. The maxima of about one hundred and six degrees are reported from Yamething, Chaibassa, Ahmedabad, Akola, Khandwa, Jacobabad and Cuddapah. Light showers of rain are reported from Mymensingh, Silchar, Darjeeling, Cochin and Coimbatore.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 30th March, 1898.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah	inches	29·827
Temperature of the Air	degrees	81·9
Wet Bulb Thermometer		75·3
Dew Point		72·7
Relative humidity of Air		·744
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded—10)		0·6
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day	degrees	88·8
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m)		76·2
General Directions of wind*		WNW, S, W, WNW.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	miles	175

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT.—MARCH 29.

10 p.m.	79·0

WEDNESDAY.—MARCH 30.

6 a.m.	76·9
10 a.m.	82·4
2 p.m.	86·2
4 p.m.	85·3

Magistrate: "Why didn't you answer to your name?" Vagrant: "Beg parding, your Honour, but I forgot wot name I gave las' night." Magistrate: "Didn't you give your own name?" Vagrant: "No your Honour. I'm travelling incog."

A man called upon M. Makedonsky, a Bulgarian editor in Constantinople, on March 5, and shot him twice, inflicting wounds from which he died. On the same date, at Uskub, a young Bulgarian shoemaker was attacked by three students of the Servian School in front of the residence of the Archimandrite Firmillon, the acting Servian Bishop, and stabbed to death with a dagger. The assassins were arrested.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth, go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to the taste, it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pains, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other cause. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere at 1s. 6d. per bottle.

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH. A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d. of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale Depot 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

THE BOMBAY ART SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

Some of the vernacular papers are pleased to notice that the Bombay Art Society's Exhibition has this year proved a success after all. The "Indian Spectator" says: At a time when the city was passing through a grave crisis it was hardly to be expected that a Fine Art Exhibition in its midst would turn out so successful. It will be remembered that the Society had to postpone, last year, the holding of their ninth annual show for the same reason. This year the plague, instead of diminishing, has increased. But rather than waiting for another year, the Society, trusting to the perseverance and energy of their Honorary Secretary, Professor Muller, and the co-operation of the art-loving section of the Bombay community, boldly resolved on an effort, and the result has been what was witnessed on Wednesday evening last. According to the testimony of those competent to judge, the present show is no way inferior to any of the preceding ones. The collection of pictures has been this year as large as, if not larger than, the years before, and from the artistic point of view the exhibits are pronounced to be comparatively speaking, up to the mark. If one remembers well the first efforts of the Society in this direction, he will not fail to acknowledge that it has by its perseverance undoubtedly done much in course of these nine years to encourage the artistic talent of the Presidency and to improve the æsthetic taste of the public. Under happier circumstances, there is no doubt that the present exhibition would have been a greater success. Let us hope Professor Muller will be enable next year to realize this expectation.

A SMALL CAUSE COURT JUDGE.

The "Rast Goftar," referring to an extension of one year to the period of Service of Mr. Hormusjee Dadabhoy, fourth Judge of the Small Causes Court, says: Mr Hormusjee is an old Elphinstonian, having received his education both in the school and college departments of the Elphinstone Institution, which was the first educational institution started by Goverment in this Presidency. He then joined the Government Law Class, and after putting in his terms there, he commenced practising in the local Court of Small Causes as a pleader, and in a few years became one of the leaders of the Bar of the Small Causes Court. Mr. Hormusjee acted off and on during the last 25 years as a judge of the Court temporarily till, on a vacancy occurring in the court, Lord Harris, recognizing his high ability, and the solidity and depth of his legal acquirements, confirmed him in his appointment and made him a permanent judge, since which time he has graced the Bench with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the suitors coming to the Court as well as the Bar, both European and native

THE CORPORATION AND THE PLAGUE COMMITTEE.

The "Rast Goftar" thinks that the business disposed of at the last meeting of the Corporation but one was of an extremely important character, and that the meeting was a success in every respect. The native journalist adds: "The speeches, though few, were excellent and moderate, especially those of Professor O. V. Muller and the Hon. Mr. P. M. Mehta, both of whom were perhaps in the best style. So powerful was the effect of these speeches that, though the subject was so important, and admitted of a wide difference of opinion—because it must be borne in mind that the Corporation, by their vote on Thursday last, have appealed to Government to hand them over the work of the suppression of a rising plague, which has defied the efforts of the Plague Committee—still the members were impatient to vote and carried the proposition unanimously. The proposition contains a clause, asking Government to give the Municipality an officer of their own to work in association with the Municipal Commissioner. One might take exception to this clause, arguing that it was also a sort of dual agency. But as pointed out by the Hon. Mr. Mehta, the clause is absolutely necessary. The Corporation have all along contended that the work of the suppression of plague is not purely a municipal affair, but an imperial concern, and that a representative of the Imperial Government should in fairness be associated with the Municipality to watch imperial interests."

The *Indian Spectator* observes: The Corporation seems to have done well to appoint a committee to represent to Government the advisability of abolishing the Plague Committee now, and handing over the work of suppressing the plague back to the constituted authorities. The proposal is not to give a "carte blanche" to the Corporation, but to associate with the Commissioner an officer appointed by and responsible to Government, who will see that the efforts of the Municipality are vigorous and wise. So safe-guarded against a breach of the necessary continuity and vigour the change prayed for can have no danger of proving harmful. Rather, the Municipality will do all it can to establish its credit and win laurels, as once deposed and subsequently restored authorities generally are known to do. There will be an advantage in having now a single authority in the city to look after its health. It will restore harmony and unity, and will also tend to economy, we are sure. We are glad, the speeches delivered at the meeting of the Corporation on the subject were moderate and argumentative withal."

COOPING UP THE POPULATION AND PANIC.

Some of the native journals have been complaining that the plague authorities, by cooping up the population in Bombay, have killed more persons than they have saved.

The "Indian Spectator" remarks: One of the Governor's assurances was that the quarantine restrictions would be loosened in a very appreciable degree. Mr. Du Boulay has been, with a view to give effect to that assurance, doing the work of giving passes for exemption from quarantine. But it seems that unnecessary and vexatious shackles still continue to be put on. Passes are granted only to men proceeding on "business," and business is interpreted in the narrowest sense possible. Thus, a man cannot go to see his mother who is dying. He can, of course, tell a lie and escape, but that is another matter. Then, certificates signed by known gentlemen of position have to be procured by the applicants for passes, and these certificates are of stringent enough character to annoy at least honest men. Many of us are now really sick of these quarantine measures, half and half, and wholly vexatious one way or another, to all. Bombay has suffered long from them. There are reasons to suppose that the plague has stuck to the city this year, much longer than it did last year, principally because of the enforced cooping up of the population in the affected quarters, which concentrated the poison and increased its strength and its staying power. It is high time to try a radical change in the system. Would it not be possible to abolish quarantine in Bombay itself on out-going passengers, leaving the mofussil towns to protect themselves by quarantine or strict medical examination, as they like?

The *Gujerati* states: As we observed last week his Excellency's speech has had a marked effect upon the public mind. Panic and irritation, anxiety and uneasiness, which had disturbed almost every household, have disappeared, and there is a general sense of relief throughout the native community. In Bombay, as in Poona, the people were more afraid of the plague measures than of the disease itself. "We do not care for death from plague, but can not bear the anxiety and terror due to plague operations." It was quite a common thing to hear such a remark from the lips of even coolies and labourers. We know cases of ordinary fever, in which parents have refused to consult qualified doctors, for fear that these would have to give information to the plague authorities. Want of proper medical treatment coupled with the constant anxiety of detection and compulsory removal led to disastrous consequences in cases of ordinary illness. At a time when the patient's mind should be at perfect ease and his nervous system free from any kind of strain, he was kept up in perpetual dread. It was this unfortunate system that led to increased mortality, and we are glad to find that the new rule, under which only a genuine plague case, which is certified to be such by a properly qualified medical officers, is to be removed, has had a most reassuring and soothing influence upon the mind of the people.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BY COMPARTMENTS.

With regard to the resolution passed by the senate of the Bombay University at their last meeting, the *Rast Goftar* observes: On Tuesday last, the senate of the Bomboy University passed Mr. Justice Ranade's resolution with certain modifications, and referred the Government letter, declining to sanction the new scheme for examination for compartments, to a committee to draft a reply to Government, reaffirming the principle adopted by it in its previous resolutions. Apparently, the wisdom of such a course is doubtful, for as the Hon Mr. Justice Badrudin Tyebji pointed out with singular clearness, it would amount to a censure on the syndicate whom they elected only a few days back. Mr. B. Tyebji pledged his word that he would presonally see that the syndicate met the wishes of the senate as to how far the principle of grouping subjects could be upplied to any of the examinations of tha University. But his sound counsel fell on nuwilling ears, and it was apparent that a certain class of the fellows had made up their minds on the question. Dr. Mackichan, was inclined to hope, that a sweet reasonableness had begun to steal over the minds predetermined, but the results of voting have shown how greatly he was mistaken.

The 'Indian Spectator' writes:—We are glad that Mr Justice Ranade's motion does not set at naught the advice of Government as regards grouping of subjects, limitation of years, and other modifications of the principle of exempting students from having to pass again in the same subject, which, indeed, in the bare form in which it was adopted by the Senate, commends itself to us as little as it does to the Government. The Committee of the Senate has to consider these suggestions of Government and make recommendations accordingly. The Senate will then consider them, and the matter must, after all, go to the Syndicate again. The Syndicate has thus not been completely defeated. Let this not be forgotten, even in the heat of present feelings.

The "Gujerati" remarks: The Senate, while reaffirming the principle, which it had alreadp accepted and by virtue of which it was proposed to exempt candidates from reappearing for examinations in certain subjects under certain conditions, has appointed a Committee to draw up a scheme with a view to meet the objections of government and submit their report to the Senate within four weeks. The Hon. Mr. Budrudin was in favour of referring the subject back to the syndicate. We believe that this course would have commended itself to many but for the unfortunate attempt on the part of government in their lettter to the syndicate to assign to that body a position which it does not and can not possess. The attitude of some of the individual syndics in the past had also tended to produce a similar belief in some quarters regarding the constitutional relation of the syndicate and Senate. Those, who have been watching the course of the affairs of our University for some years past, must have seen that the time was coming when it would be necessary for the Senate to assert its constitutional position in an emphatic and unequivocal manner.

THE INDIAN FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Commenting upon Sir James Westland's last financial statement, the *Gujarati* writes: The Indian Financial Statements are a source of perpetual disappointment to men who are not pledged to stand by the official theory that the financial position of India is all that can be desired or perhaps better than that of any civilized country in the world except England. Those, who are determined to live in a Fool's Paradise, are welcome to do so. No argument is likely to change their resolve. They will continue to be optimists till a financial catastrophe gives a rude awakening. No amount of whitewashing, no amount of perversion or masrepresentation will be able to alter the operation of fiscal and economic laws. Sir James Westland is at liberty to flatter himself with the belief that he has proved to his satisfaction that his review of Indian finance during the last twenty years establishes the highly satisfactory conclusion at which he has arrived. But if he thinks that he has convinced the Indian public of the accuracy and soundness of his views, he is very seriously mistaken.

The *Kaiser-i-Hind* observes: The fallacy of Sir James Westland is so obvious that it is astonishing he should have given currency to it, knowing as he must be that what he was stating would be immediately criticised. This can be hardly called excellent tactics, and if Sir James thought this kind of financial balooning would please his masters at Westminster, he is very much mistaken. The masters will not feel grateful to him at all for all the tribe of the critics, strong and weak-kneed, will turn round on them and point out the transparent fallacy of the shibboleth, "India pays its way."

The *Rast Goftar* writes: The budget, as it has been presented by Sir James Westland, is disappointing in so far as it affords no relief either in the contraction of the currency, or in the stability of exchange in India. The disappointment is felt all the more since the Finance Minister has made no definite pronouncement in regard to the currency policy of the Government. Of all things the stability of exchange is a great desideratum, and in a prosperous year like the present, when the crops are expected to be bumper, Government might have availed themselves of the opportunity of initiating a policy that would have secured the stability of exchange.

The "Indian Spectator" discourses The Financial Statement for 1898-99 has no surprises for us, though it might heve taken for those, in England, who were led by Lord George Hamilton's assurance, given in the course of his speech against the motion for help from the British to the Indian Exchequer, that the financial condition of this country was satisfactory, and getting more satisfactory still. Sir James Westland, indeed, devotes a considerable portion of his Budget Statement to prove the correctness of the position taken up by the Secretary of State, by taking a review of the past twenty years of Indian Finance, and by interspersing it with comments as to the country getting on well enough and the need to preserve her financial independence. We shall deal with this matter of general interest later on; presently, it is sufficient to note that the accounts for the year that is ending, and the estimates for the year that is to begin next month, tell but a dismal tale of heavy deficits, large loans and increased burden of taxation.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

The s s Henley, 1,469 tons, Captain R C Cragg, will sail to-day for Genoa, with a general cargo.

The s s Picciola, 874 tons, Captain E Hass, sailed yesterday for Singapore, with a general cargo.

The P and O Co's s s Brindisi 2,265 tons, Captain C H Watkins, sailed yesterday for China with a general cargo.

The City Line s s City of Sparta, 3,339 tons, Captain James Black, arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta, 22nd March, with a cargo of coal.

The B I S N Co's s s Amra, 170 tons, Captain J Fry, will sail to-day, for Persian Gulf, via Karachi, with a general cargo, and the following passengers:—Captain J F Forbes, Lieut H M Lord, Surgeon J Smith and 82 deck.

The Bombay and Persia S N Co's s s Mohammudi 1,252 tons, Captain A Erikson, arrived in harbou yesterday, from Massowa, 18th March, via Aden, with a general cargo and Mr John Janapoli end Mr Vincacia, as passengers.

The P and O Co's s s Coromandel, 2,783 tons, Captain F N Tillard, sailed yesterday, for China, with Her Majesty's China and Australian Mails, a general cargo, and the following passengers:—Miss Johnson, Mr Lustig, Mrs Lancent, Mr J N Sethna, Mr Parrot, Major Cumburland, Rev Canroll, Mr R Cheok, Mrs W C Symes.

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—MARCH 30.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shed.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
A	Mekado	2306	Raywork	Hull	4-4	F M & Co
B	Pemba	987	Shepherd			M M & Co
D	Ras Elba	1769	Moore	Genoa	31-3	W & A G & Co
F	Radley	1984	Tallock	Hamburg	31-3	Bo Co
G	Henly	1469	Graggs	Genoa	31-3	J M & Co
H & J	Bq Pawady	458	Junghans	Mauritius	—	V E & Co
M	Afgan	1439				H C Joosub
N	Clan Macrae	1664	Elliott	Marseilles		F M & Co
P	Trelyon	1990	Blake	Trieste	—	W & A G & Co
Q	Bq Grosvenor	517	Brebner	Mauritius	31-3	H S Sidick

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
1	Australia	2292	Tait	Liverpool	1-4	W & A G & Co
2	Kt Bachelor	4092	Froggatt	Marseilles	2-4	K N & Co
3	Arabia	2331	Read	Liverpool	10-4	W&A G &Co
4	Singapore	2432	Pizarello	Genoa	30-3	N G Italiana
5	Coromandal	2784	Fillard	China	30-3	P & O Co
6	Oriental	3085	Jephson	London	9-4	P & O Co
7	Istrar	2978	McKay	Antwerp	6-4	E B & Co
9	Fitzpatrick	2627	Greggans	H & London		W& A G & Co
12	Rudischeimer	...	Sandsteet	Hamburg	4-4	G & Co
15	Brindisi	2266	Watkins		30-3	P & O S N Co
16	Courland	760	Lenton	Natal	25-3	D A & Co

MEREWETHER DRY DOCK.

Satrunji	1192 tons gross	Shepherd & Co
Zuari	218 do.	Do.

* Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon, or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44'3s.

The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba mean time, or 8h. 8m. 44'30 of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVALS.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
30	City of Sparta s	Black	Calcutta, March 22
	Mohammudi s	Erickson	Massowa, March 18
	Bancoora s	......	Calcutta, &c

DEPARTURES.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
30	Dunera, transport	Smith	Southampton
	Picciola s	Hass	Singapore
	Brindisi s	Watkins	Hongkong
	Coromandel s	Tillard	Shanghai
	Ancona s	Street	Aden and Perim

The following vessels obtained their port clearances yesterday:—

Steamer Singapore, Pizzarello, for Genoa, etc.
" Amra, Fry, for Persian Gulf, etc.
" Henley, Cragg, for Genoa.

The steamer Mohammadi entered for loading yesterday for Persian Gulf and Jedda.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

March			
25	Muttra s	Watt	Mauritius, March 5.
	Africa s	Fenwick	Moulmein, March 22.

DEPARTURES.

March 25—Steamers Arapahoe, Maharani, Wanderer, Clan Maclean, Nurani, Hochheimer and Wardha.
March 26—Steamers Mecca and Bhundara.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY COLONEL R. S. BROWN, V. D., COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 31st March, 1898.

1. Members who have not already returned their arms, ammunition and equipment to Head-quarters, are requested to do so as early as possible.
2. Targets will be ready from 7 to 8 a.m. to-morrow (Friday) the 1st proximo, at the Revolver Range of the 21st Bombay Infantry (Marine Lines) for all Officers and Sergeants who may wish to practice.

By Order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

Molly (between waltzes): "He said the world had been like a desert to him till he met me." Polly: "That explains why he dances so like a camel, I suppose."

Rowland's Macassar Oil prevents hair falling off or turning grey, cleanses it from scurf and dandruff, and makes it beautifully Soft, pliable, and glossy. It is the best Brilliantine, contains no mineral ingredients, can be had in a golden colour for fair hair, and is most exquisitely perfummed. Sold by Chemist and Drug Stores. Avoid spurious imitations, and buy none but Rowlands.

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The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

BAPTIST CHURCH SACRED CONCERT THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING, at 8-30 P.M. 8 Annas.

PRIZES! PRIZES! JUST ARRIVED.—We have now in Stock a large selection of Cabinet goods, suitable for prizes, &c., of every description. Cigar and Cigarette Cabinets, Monsoon Cigar Cases, Tantalus Frames for Scents or Spirits, cases of Games, &c., &c.—MARCKS & Co., Ltd., Bombay and Poona.

FURNITURE of high class workmanship and moderation in price, latest illustrated Sheets free on application.—JOHN ROBERTS & Co., Ld.

GENTS' CYCLING KNICKERS, Wool Washing Material, Light-weight, Rs. 10-8 pair. Stout, Rs. 12-8 pair. ASQUITH and LORD, Tailors, Apollo Street, Bombay.

CORN AND WART DESTROYER.—A safe, rapid and painless solvent for Corns and Warts. This is a chemical combination of Xyloidine and Salicylic Acid with extract of Indian Hemp. In Bottles, As. 12 each. Prepared only by THOMSON TAYLOR, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

SINGING LESSONS.—MADAM SCHULTZ, Pupil of the Leading Artists in Germany, teaches the Perfect Art of Vocalization. Address 5, COLABA CAUSEWAY.

WANTED, a competent LADY'S-MAID European or Eurasian, must be well up in her duties, good packer and needle woman. Apply to Mrs. JACOB SASSOON, Braganza Hall, Victoria Road, Byculla, any day between 11 and 1.

WANTED, a MANAGING CLERK, to assist a Solicitor, in good practice in Madras, with prospect of Partnership. Apply stating salary required to "ALPHA," care of this paper.

WANTED, A first and second class certificated ENGINEER, Parsee preferred. Apply, with copies of testimonials, and stating salary required to the SECRETARY, Cawnpore Cotton Mills, Co., Ld, Cawnpore, N. W. P.

TO LET, from 1st May, in Mount Road, Mazagon, the LOWER FLOOR OF A BUNGALOW, seven Rooms, two Bath rooms, Stabling, &c. Rent Rs. 60 per mensem. Apply to J. BRENNAN, on the premises.

LONAULI.—BUNGALOW TO LET. Eight Rooms, Upper Storey, extensive grounds. For particulars apply "L," care of Manager, "Bombay Gazette" Office.

CLIFTON, BRISTOL.—A FURNISHED HOUSE, TO LET, at Clifton, from the end of April, for six or twelve months, 3½ guineas a week. Full particulars and photo at Messrs. THOMAS COOK and SON'S OFFICE, Bombay.

RUGBY HOTEL, MATHERAN, is a very Comfortable and most pleasantly and centrally situated, European Hotel on the Hill. It contains several detached Bungalows, suitable for Families, all Home Comforts provided. Rooms Clean, Bright, Airy and Commodious. Terms Moderate. Matheran has been entirely free from Plague.

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ENLARGEMENTS—RAJA DEEN DAYAL & SONS, Photographers by Royal Warrant to Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, are prepared to undertake orders for making Bromide permanent enlargements from any Size of photograph however old and faded to Life size most artistically and highly finished in Black and White or Water Colours. Prices and full particulars on application to the MANAGER, Art Photographic Salon, Bombay.

WILL FORMS of DIFFERENT KINDS. Price 8 Annas. Can be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Office.

DEATHS FROM CHOLERA:—Municipality of Bombay, Superintendent, Water Works, Chinchpokli, 29th Oct. 97. Memo. No. 1738—55 a of 1897-98:—Many of my workmen residing in the Municipal Chawl at Chinchpokli were attacked by Cholera and they have been SAVED by Batliwalla and Co.'s "CHOLERAL." There was not a single case of failure. I wish it should have still more wider circulation. . . . . . . As for Batliwalla's Ague Mixture or Pills no more Testimonials are required, when they are used with success for the Staff of the Bombay Municipality "Bombay Gazette," "Times of India," "Advocate of India" &c., &c. Sold by Chemists and Druggists at Re. 1 per Bottle, or sent by Dr. Batliwalla, Worli, Dadar, Bombay Discount to the Trade.

"TARAXACUM JUICE WITH PODOPHYLLIN," a combination of the two medicines, in a most agreeable form. A certain remedy for sluggish Liver. Per Bottle Re. 1 and Re. 1-12. THOMSON and TAYLOR, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

THE INDIAN RAILWAY GUIDE.—An indispensable Book for Travellers in India and the East, contains the Special Time and Fare Tables of all the Indian Railway Companies, the Steamer Routes in India, and the Eastern Seas, and other useful information. Price 8 Annas. Coloured Map of India revised from Official sources. To be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Office, and at all Booksellers and Railway Terminus.

GENUINE AMERICAN SNOWFLAKE OIL, 150°, sold by STANDARD OIL Co., of New York, at their Godowns, at Mazagon, and by Messrs. Kemp and Co., Ld., Messrs. Phillips and Co., Ld., and Messrs. Currimbhai Hirji, at Rs. 5, per case, in Bombay, and by Mr. J. C. Bhut, at Rs. 5-1-0, per case, at Bandra.

OVERLAND SUMMARY, published Weekly on the Departure of English Mail, 28 pages of the Pall Mall Budget size, containing all the information of the previous week, carefully arranged, Army Orders, &c, Indian Subscription, Rs. 12 per year, free of Postage, English Subscription, Rs. 15 per year, including Postage.

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Being a Reprint of Two Letters to the
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37, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT.

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CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened free of charge for Commission, and interest at 2 per cent. per annum credited on 30th June and 31st December, when the minimum balance does not fall below Rs. 500. Currency Notes of all Circles and Demand Hundies payable in Bombay received without charge.

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The representatives of WM. HUTCHINSON and Co., on RECEIPT of INTIMATION, Board Steamers from the East on their arrival at Plymouth, at Gravesend, or at the Docks, to take instructions of Clearing and Forwarding Baggage, &c.

BOMBAY PLAGUE RELIEF FUND.

AN APPEAL.

THE most acute distress and want are now prevailing in the city owing to the ravages of the plague.

In many instances all the bread-winners of families have been cut off and only helpless women and little children remain. The effects of the plague from this point of view are far more disastrous than those of famine.

A fund has accordingly been opened with a view to supplying those in want with money, food or clothing, as the case may be, and donations are earnestly solicited.

Contributions may be forwarded to the Municipal Commissioner, or Mr. Ghellabhai Haridas, Bank of Bombay, who has kindly consented to act as treasurer to the fund, the distribution of which will be supervised by Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Weir and Mr. J. Leask, in consultation with the Commissioner.

P. C. H. SNOW,
Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay.

DR. F. B. SEERVAI,
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No. 3, HORNBY ROW,
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Horses broken to single, (Rs. 15), and doubleHarness (Rs.30), and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charges extra. Horses Standing on Commission Sale, or for treatment—

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At Livery, including Syce per mensem Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17	0
Examination and Certificate	10	0
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Special mixtures Crushed Oats, Bran, etc., supplied.

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GIRAS AND GUARANTEE,

BEING a Compilation of Decisions, &c., on Questions regarding Giras, wants, and other Guaranteed Rights with an Introductory Account of the Settlements in Kathiawar, Mahikantha and Rewakantha, together with Appendices and a Copious Index.

PRICE.......... Rs. 5.
Packing and Postage extra.
To be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Press, Bombay

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 30.

THERE were further allotments of Indian Council Bills in London yesterday, amounting to 2 lakhs on Bombay at 1s. 3 23-32d.; 12 lakhs on Calcutta, with about 1 1-4 lakh on Madras, at 1s. 3 13-16d. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight continued at 1s. 3 5-16d.

The financial quotations were all unchanged in the London market, save 3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Securities, which advanced 1-8 per cent., to £62 1-8. Consols remained at 111 1-8, French Rentes at 103 1-4. Paris Exchange on London at 25·31 1-2 fcs., Indian Sterling Loan at 113, and Bar Silver at 25 5-8d. per oz. In New York the price of the latter metal continued at 55 1-4 cents per oz., while demand Exchange on London was 1-4 cent higher at 4·83 1-2 dollars.

The total quantity of Wheat afloat on Friday last was 2,790,000 quarters, compared with 2,810,000 quarters at the end of the previous week.

Yellow Cawnpore Rapeseed was quoted at 38s. per 416 lbs., April-May shipment, to Havre, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, sellers via the Canal, in a firm market: and Brown Rapeseed at 35 1-4 s. per 416 lbs., same shipment, to the same ports, business done via the Canal, tone of the market firm.

The Liverpool cotton market closed firmer yesterday, Surats dull, Arrivals steady. The day's sales were 10,000 bales, and the Imports 39,000 bales. For Spot Mid.-Americans 3 3-8d. per lb. was quoted; American Arrivals were 1-32d. higher in all positions, barring June-July delivery, which was 3-64d. higher, extreme quotations being 3 19-64d. for March, and 3 5-16d. per lb. for July-August delivery. The Manchester market closed firmer.

In New York the price of Ready Mid-Uplands was unchanged at 6 1-8 cents per lb.; June and September Futures were both 3 points lower, at 5·94 and 5·96 cents. per lb., respectively. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 16,000 bales; and the Arrivals this season now compare as follows with those in 1897 and 1896:—

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Tuesday's Receipts	16,000	10,000	16,000
Three days' do.	43,000	26,000	36,000
Since 1st Sept	7,853,000	6,218,000	4,763,000

In our local market for this staple the enquiry has again been small to-day. The tone of the market is quiet, with prices unaltered. The Mills purchased 850 bales, and Exporters 1,500 bales; total 2,350 bales.

We append our usual weekly comparative Statement of the movements of cotton:—

The American Crop figures to date give the following comparisons with the two previous seasons:—

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Week's Receipts	99,000	59,000	82,000
" Exports to U. Kingdom	52,000	40,000	60,000
" " Continent	93,000	39,000	51,000
Total receipts since 1st Sept.	7,810,000	6,196,000	4,727,000
" exports to U. K. do.	4,117,000	2,694,000	1,794,900
" " to Continent do.	4,657,000	2,294,000	1,860,000
" Stock in the Ports	960,000	745,000	629,000

Total visible supply of cotton for all Europe on the 25th inst. affords the following comparisons with the two previous years:—

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Total supply of all kinds	4,260,000	3,5995.67	3,486,730
" " Surats	110,000	222,032	276,820

For the United Kingdom only the figures are:—

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Stock in Liverpool	1,216,000	1,311,007	1,125,550
" London	4,000	3,000	9,000
American Afloat	230,000	103,000	142,000
East Indian	2,000	11,000	19,000
Total	1,452,000	1,428,007	1,296,550
Price of Middling-Americans	3 5-16d.	3 31-32d.	4 3-8d.
" Good Dhollera	2 7-8d.	3 3-8d.	3 9-16d.
Difference	9-16d.	19-32d.	13-16d.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay, yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	11,505	bales.
Wheat	19,910	cwts.
Linseed	3,384	"
Rapeseed	7,538	"
Gingellyseed	7,775	"
Groundnuts	828	"
Castorseed	1,329	"

FREIGHTS are a steady market. Relets have done for Dunkirk at 16s. 6d., and for Genoa, ready, at 16s. 6d. to 17s. per ton; sellers ask 17s. 6d. to 18s. per ton.

EXCHANGE.—Rates continued steady to-day at 1s. 3 25-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 3 15-16d. for three months' sight Credits. The business passing either way was very limited, though a fair amount of Bank Paper was reported for April delivery, and at closing rates were quiet as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 3 25-32d.	per Rupee
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 3 3-4 to 25-32d.	"
Credits 3 ms' sight	1s. 3 31-32d.	"
Francs do.	1·68 1-2	"

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—Quotations for 3 1-2 per Cents recovered 1-4 per cent. to-day to 94 1-2 for both Money and Account; Threes remained at 86.

SHARES.—Bombay Cotton Manufacturing Co. have advanced Rs. 20; and Lukhmidas Rs. 5; Hindustan are Rs. 15 lower; Manockjee Petit, China, and Currimbhoy, Rs. 5 each. Bank of Bombay are Re. 1 1-4 higher, at Rs. 1,258 per share.

BANK OF BENGAL.

THE following is the Statement of the Affairs of the Bank of Bengal for the week ending 22nd March, 1898, as compared with the Statement of 15th March, 1898:—

	March 15. Rs.	A.	P.	March 22. Rs.	A.	P.
LIABILITIES.						
Capital paid up	2,00,00,000	0	0	2,00,00,000	0	0
Reserve Fund	83,50,000	0	0	83,50,000	0	0
Public Deposits, &c.	1,73,42,350	12	10	1,38,92,554	11	3
Other Deposits, &c.	4,37,00,871	8	0	4,47,90,118	1	0
Bank Post Bills, &c.	7,31,283	4	2	10,04,432	3	3
Sundries	22,80,503	10	6	23,02,554	5	8
Rs.	9,24,05,009	3	6	9,03,39,659	5	2
ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Government Securities	32,00,193	0	0	30,59,456	0	0
Other authorised Invtmts.	75,62,340	0	0	75,62,340	0	0
Loans on Govt. and other Authorised Securities	2,13,70,136	4	8	2,29,10,816	10	0
Accounts of Credit do.	2,40,62,521	3	9	2,37,11,600	7	5
Bills Discounted, &c.	1,18,82,355	14	4	1,21,44,528	10	8
Balances with other Banks	11,49,775	3	0	12,38,150	3	0
Bullion	2,740	11	0	2,740	11	0
Dead Stock	13,11,594	5	2	13,11,618	9	1
Stamps	10,208	9	3	11,095	5	5
Sundries	12,65,371	14	4	12,46,202	9	1
Cash, &c., at Head Office	86,30,169	1	7	77,50,094	12	7
Do. at Branches	1,19,57,593	0	5	93,91,015	6	11
Rs.	9,24,05,009	3	6	9,03,39,659	5	2

The following is the Bank's Memorandum of Liabilities and Assets up to 22nd March 1898.

	Rs.	
LIABILITIES.		
Treasury Balance at Head Office	18,55,009	Dec.
Do. at Branches	15,94,787	do.
Other Deposits	10,89,247	Inc.
Post Bills	2,73,149	do.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	1,40,742	Dec.
Loans	15,40,680	Inc.
Accounts of Credit	3,50,921	Dec.
Mercantile Bills	2,62,173	Inc.
Cash at Head Office	8,80,075	Dec.
Cash at Branches	25,66,583	dc.

GOLD AND SILVER.

CALCUTTA, 6TH JANUARY, 1898.

THE following are Imports and Exports of Gold and Silve during the official year 1897-98:—

	GOLD. Rs.	SILVER. Rs.	TOTAL. Rs.
In the month of November 1897.			
Imports	30,31,918	84,79,305	1,15,11,223
Exports	26,07,773	37,07,300	63,15,073
Net Imports	4,24,145	47,72,005	51,96,150
To the end of the month of November 1897, Progressive.			
Imports	4,76,19,251	8,89,34,699	13,65,54,350
Exports	1,57,10,299	3,74,10,258	5,31,20,557
Net Imports	3,19,09,352	5,15,24,441	8,34,33,793

Silver received and coined in the Mints during the official year 1897-98.

	Calcutta. Rs.	Bombay. Rs.	Total. Rs.
COINS AND BULLION RECEIVED (ASSAY VALUE).			
In the month of Nov. 1897	4,67,601	36,94,181*	41,61,782
To the end of the month of Nov. 1897, (Progressive)	14,89,741	3,99,18,494	4,14,08,235
COINED AND EXAMINED.			
In the month of Nov. 1897	4,38,004	37,62,360	42,00,364
To the end of the month of Nov. 1897.	16,10,969	3,91,85,258	4,07,96,227

G. I. P. RAILWAY.

(Open 1,491½ Miles.)

The following is the Statement of Traffic for week ending 12th March, 1898:—

	Coaching Traffic. Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic. Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated)	Total Earnings.
Total	Rs. 85,847	Rs. 5,52,860	Rs. 4,772	Rs. 6,43,479
Corresponding week last year. Open 1,491½ Miles.	...	...	...	6,50,021

Decrease .... Rs. 6,542

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

CHARLESWORTH—March 21, at Bhuggutdhee, Dhanbad, the wife of J H Charlesworth, of a daughter.

GREIG—March 14, at Bihora Tea Estate, the wife of James Greig, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

OAKLEY—KING—March 26, at St Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, by the Rev A G Luckman, Ernest John, youngest son of the late Very Rev John Oakley, Dean of Manchester, to Winifred Nellie Vale (Nell), second daughter of Lorraine King.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns, should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1898.

SIR JAMES WESTLAND must marvel at his good fortune in being able after a year diversified by famine, plague, war, and earthquake, to produce a Budget, which, showing a deficit of only five crores for the last two years, promises a surplus next year. That surplus small as it necessarily is, will only be realised if all goes well, and there is no frontier war, or famine or epidemic to provide for. How precarious an estimated surplus may be was shown by the rectification found necessary by the Finance Minister, on Monday last, in respect to the provision of increased pay to British soldiers in India under the new army reorganisation scheme. In the Budget statement the increment was twenty lakhs per annum. It will be seven lakhs more, and for some three or four years even forty-five lakhs, until the men entitled under the present system to deferred pay now abolished are no longer on the rolls. On the other hand, there is a prospect of a saving of twenty lakhs by the early settlement of the Frontier troubles. The country will be spared the cost and waste of energy that would have been involved in a second campaign in the Tirah, at one time contemplated. There is no use crying over spilt milk, but if there had been no permanent occupation of Chitral four crores for military operations lasting six months would not have figured in the budget of a year that had been quite sufficiently harassed by unavoidable misfortunes. It would be very difficult to set down in black and white any practical advantages that have been obtained by the Tirah Campaign. It was not given India a new sanitarium, or a point of vantage from which we can send the Amir the reinforcements which his Highness is supposed to be anxiously awaiting in fulfilment of our obligations to defend his territories against an invader not yet in sight. Lord Elgin must have been hard set for something to put against the loss of life in a six months' struggle with the everlasting hills, the destruction of villages, and the expenditure of many crores, except the accomplishment of a feat that no one had ever attempted before. The British soldier, his Excellency claims, has now penetrated into practically every part of the North-West Frontier. The only consolation under the circumstances is that it is not possible to repeat the boast indulged in a few months since by Mr. Balfour, that wherever the British soldier sets his foot there he remains. Having scaled the steep plateau and shown his powers of endurance under circumstances of exceptional and quite unnecessary hardship, Tommy Atkins climbed down again with even greater difficulty, after accomplishing a feat of mountaineering that an Alpine tourist might envy.

That any useful political or military purpose has been accomplished by the hardships undergone has yet to be shown. The Viceroy is indignant that the breath of criticism should "traduce" the brave officers who conducted the recent campaign. His Excellency surely must be aware that Sir William Lockhart set the example. It is not to be supposed that the gallant and unfortunate General Yeatman Biggs, who directed his last battle from his death bed, was the only officer who committed errors of judgment. If that had been the case four regiments would not have been sent back to the base. There can be no doubt that while officers and men cheerfully faced the trials of mountain and climate and season in a campaign against a brave and enterprising enemy armed with weapons of precision of which they had learned the use in our own regiments, there was much room for improvement in the handling of the troops and in the general conduct of the campaign. That is the opinion of experienced eye witnesses themselves military men; none others, it may be remembered, were allowed to accompany the expedition. Of more present interest to the general public than the degree of criticism to be apportioned to those who sanctioned and those who conducted the campaign in the Tirah, is the mystery attaching to the proposals for fixing exchange and giving stability to the rupee, submitted by the Government of India to the Secretary of State. Lord George Hamilton has appointed a committee of experts to examine the scheme and advise the India Office as for its practicability. Of the composition of the committee Sir James Westland was not able to tell the Council anything, but that Indian commercial opinion would be represented upon it. For the present we must possess our souls in patience, while money is so scarce that all business is strangled. The Hon. Mr. Arthur drew attention to the unbearable tax imposed on all commercial transactions by the bank rate at present prevailing, and to the certainty that the proposed rupee loan would greatly aggravate a situation already more than serious. Sir Griffith Evans said very truly that whatever is to be done to place the currency on a staple basis should be done quickly.

It could be wished that the Viceroy shared that reasonable view, but the deprecatory observation that Government should not be urged to move faster than prudence demanded, invites the rejoinder that the state of things requiring a remedy has continued much longer than ordinary prudence would warrant. The necessity for action in the direction indicated by the legislation of June 1893 has been sufficiently obvious during the last five years. Yet it is only now that the proposals are to go before a committee of experts, and we are told that prudence requires that things should not move faster. It may be of course that the delay is in London rather than in Calcutta. A suggestion to that effect seems to be conveyed in the reply of his Excellency to the Hon'ble Mr. Arthur, that the currency question is not one that can be settled by the Government of India alone. It would be well to impress on the India Office that delays are not merely dangerous, but ruinous, when for a second year the commerce of India is strangled by a bank rate of over twelve per cent., and may not always be obtainable at that exorbitant price. On one point the declaration of the Government of India, speaking by Sir James Westland, is welcome, in view of the efforts of interested agitators to disturb opinion as to the future of silver. He has formally and emphatically declared that in the opinion of the Government of India the silver standard is now a thing of the past. Sir James added that the re-opening of the Mints would mean the prolonged exclusion of European capital from this country. That is unquestionably true; the re-opening of the Mints would not only prevent the investment of European capital in India, but would drain away whatever remains of what was formerly invested. Mr. W. W. Carlile in a timely lecture on this subject delivered in Glasgow, showed that while silver has fallen another thirty-three per cent. since the Mints were closed, the rupee is now nearly one and fourpence instead of one and twopence. Had the Mints remained open, the rupee would by this time have fallen to ten-pence, and Indian finance would have become impossible.

IT is a grievous misfortune for Calcutta and Bengal that ill-health should compel Sir Alexander Mackenzie to resign the Lieutenant-Governorship at a moment when his vigorous personality seemed to stand between the Presidency and plague. If the Bengal capital escapes the pestilence which has in three successive years made its home in Bombay, its good fortune will be in no small measure due to the foresight and energy with which he compelled everything to give way to the supreme necessity of cleaning the city while keeping the enemy at a distance. He came to the conclusion that the first step necessary was to re-model the constitution of the Calcutta Municipality, and in the face of much misrepresentation and abuse he has placed before the Council a measure which will relieve the city from the incompetent hands into which it had fallen. The necessity for such a deliverance was shown beyond doubt or dispute when on the threatened approach of plague, the Corporation having passed a resolution recognising the vital necessity of thoroughly cleaning the city, the matter was placed in the hands of a committee which employed one Superintendent, two Inspectors, 200 coolies, and sixty small carts for the work—scarcely sufficient for one of the eight wards into which the city was divided. Two precious months were allowed to pass before the Municipality, under the strongest pressure from the Government and the Medical Board, consented to vote Rs. 30,000 for clearing away the accumulated filth which with the attendant surroundings constituted "the appalling state of things described two years previously by the Board." While economy of the most fatal kind reduced the sanitary condition of Calcutta to a point in which the danger equalled the disgrace, the collection of the Municipal revenues was so careless that over six lakhs fell into irrecoverable arrears in less than five years, underpaid and uncontrolled subordinates accepting bribes from ratepayers to defraud the Municipal exchequer. Things had come to that pass when the Europeans finding themselves in a hopeless necessity and unable to afford the time to listen to endless talk, intended to prevent work, left the Municipal body, and the Hindu majority had everything in their own hands. The Government had the intention, when the Municipal Consolidation Act of 1888 was passed, to apportion a certain number of seats to Hindus, Mahomedans, Europeans, and others so as to ensure a satisfactory representation of each racial element. The diplomatic assurance was given by Babu Kristodas Pal that if the Hindus were left free to vote as they wished they would as a matter of course elect a considerable number of Europeans, knowing that they have a special aptitude for and long experience of municipal affairs. But if the Hindus were restricted by a provision of the Act from distributing their votes as they pleased they would vote for Hindus only, and the Europeans would be deprived of seats they would otherwise get. It is scarcely conceivable that a bland diplomatic assurance of that kind could be accepted as a serious ground for modifying the Government proposals. But so it was. And the result has been that the Hindus never voted for a single European. That element has been eliminated, with the results now apparent. Sir Alexander Mackenzie has sought a remedy in strengthening the executive, placing a committee in which Europeans are largely represented between the Chairman, or as we should term him in Bombay the Municipal Commissioner, and the Corporation. The latter body is left as it is, with the financial control resulting from the power of voting supplies or withholding them. It remains to be seen whether with such a foundation the new superstructure will be able to maintain the sanitary future of Calcutta at the necessary level. With a Sir Alexander Mackenzie at the head of affairs, and with public opinion kept on the alert by the ever-present fear of the advent of plague, the newly devised Executive Committee might be able to prevail against the obstructiveness and the apathy of the Corporation which holds the purse strings. But it is to be doubted whether the Executive Council will do all that is expected of it with a Lieutenant-Governor of a different conception of public duty and with a public that takes no interest in local administration when plague or cholera is not at hand. It would have been wiser to eliminate the incompetent and perverse element from the Municipal Corporation, and replace it by men actuated by public spirit with some aptitude for affairs.

ACCORDING to our Gulf correspondent, whose letter we published on Monday, much amusement has been caused there by the fanciful accounts of English actions in that quarter which have appeared in the German papers. The *Kolnische Zeitung* says that the appointment of Mubrak bin Tubah as Turkish Governor of Kuweit will be a disappointment to the English, as it is well known that for many years past the English have been scheming to obtain that place as a terminus for the Indo-Egyptian Railway! It is quite true that Kuweit would make the best port for the terminus of such a railway if constructed, but it remains indisputable that we could have taken the place at any time for many years past, had we so desired. The *Berlin Post* rises to a much greater height when it says that Colonel Lock, Consul-General at Baghdad, visited the Persian Gulf in order to find an excuse for stationing vessels there to watch the trade to Bussarah, Kurna, etc. It will, perhaps, be news to that journal that for many, many years past the Gulf has been patrolled and policed by British vessels. Originally, the fleet consisted of five men-of-war, but latterly it has been reduced to one, with an occasional extra vessel. And if it is merely a question of watching trade, it is quite unnecessary to do it from the Persian Gulf, as for about nine months of last year a British man-of-war was anchored in Busrah itself. When the *Post* further goes on to say that the British have sunk vessels off Fao in order to direct the current of the war from the Turkish to the Persian side, and thus direct the trade of Busrah to the Persian Port of Mohammerah, it simply becomes unintelligible. The width of the Sha-el-Arab at Fao is over a mile, and how the act of sinking vessels there would divert a current, which already runs there, to the Persian side, it is not easy to see. Further, if the current ran solely on the Persian side it would make no difference to the trade of Busrah, which is sixty miles further up the river, and where the Shat-el-Arab runs solely through Turkish territory. Busrah is the natural port to supply the Tigris and Euphrates and the countries they run through, and Mohammerah is the natural port for the countries drained by the Karun. The ports are centres of distribution for different districts, and are not at all likely to interfere with each other. Again, the *Post* avers that if the current of the river were directed, and the trade of Busrah transferred to Mohammerah, the fort which the Turks contemplate building at Fao would be useless. This is stated in all seriousness, though Fao commands a river one and one-third mile in breadth. As a matter of fact, it would be a distinct menace to every nation with interests there. But the absurdity is accentuated by the fact that although by the convention between Russia, England, Persia, and Turkey, both Russia and Turkey were forbidden to construct forts on either bank of the Shat-el-Arab, the Turks quietly built a fort at Fao, some nine years ago, and when a boat from a British man-of-war landed there in order to make some investigations, the commander was fired on by the garrison—a little episode which very nearly caused a war between the two countries. When we recall this, it seems somewhat late in the day to read that the Turks contemplate building a fort at Fao. As our contemporaries have reproduced the statements of the German journals without comment they would do well to give their orders the benefit of these remarks.

SERVICE papers criticising the proposed increase of the numerical strength of the Army, confess themselves at a loss to discover whence the extra five thousand men are to come. They applaud Lord Lansdowne's scheme, which includes greater elasticity in the terms of service and a better prospect for the good soldier who loves his profession and seeks to re-engage with the promise of two thousand subordinate Government appintments each year for retired soldiers. These inducements have the approval of all military experts and journals, who, however, they doubt whether so many as five thousand men who have only left the army within two years will consent to re-engage. The leading military journal would have been better pleased had the War Office taken power to extend the area to two years if the number of this special reserve prove inadequate. Those who have been absent from the colours for less than twelve months might and should be preferred, but after all a man who has only been eighteen months or two years away from his regiment would be nearly as efficient as the one year's man. But it is, however, presumed that should the present arrangement fail to answer Lord Lansdowne's expectations, he will have recourse to the men in their second year of reserve service. But the scheme which our contemporary would urge and which seems to us worthy of serious consideration is that the military authorities shall imitate the Royal Navy and enrol boys to be passed into the effective ranks on attaining a certain age. Failing this it makes military service so attractive that adult volunteers shall be forthcoming in adequate numbers. But against this the British taxpayer will cry out. For although he has nothing to say against the increase of strength by five thousand, he would strongly oppose any considerable increase in expenditure.

OWING to the accident to the P. & O. Co.'s s. s. China, the s. s. Carthage, which was waiting at Aden to bring on from that port the outward English mails of 18th instant, has been sent on with shipwrecked passengers and mails, and the steamer Parramatta, which was on her outward voyage to Calcutta, has diverted to Bombay to bring the inward mails. The Parramatta left Aden yesterday evening, and is expected to arrive at Bombay, about 11 p.m., on Sunday.

THE P. & O. Co.'s s. s. Egypt arrived at Marseilles on Saturday (26th inst.), and was granted free pratique.

THE P. and O. Co.'s steamer Ancona, Captain A. F. Street, sailed, yesterday, for Aden and Perim, to render help to the s. s. China, which has stranded on Obstruction Point, Perim.

So far as the Police Courts are concerned the trial of the men participating in the riots of March 9th concluded yesterday. In all 247 persons were arrested in connection with the riots. Fourteen (11 Mahomedans and 3 Hindus) have been committed to the next Criminal Sessions of the High Court for trial. The remaining 233 prisoners were tried by the magistrates in twenty batches. They included 162 Mahomedans and 71 Hindus. 205 prisoners were convicted and sentenced to different terms of imprisonment, ranging from one month to four years' rigorous imprisonment. Of these 144 were Mahomedans and 61 Hindus. Only 28 prisoners, comprising 18 Mahomedans and 10 Hindus, were discharged either for want of identification or insufficient evidence. Altogether 20 separate cases were disposed of by the magistrates, and 5 cases, of which 3 are of arson, one of murder, and another of causing grievous hurt, have been committed to the High Court.

IN connection with the Light Horse "at Home" this afternoon, we are desired to remind our readers that a special train for Santa Cruz will leave Colaba at 3-25 local time, calling at Church-gate and Grant-road Stations and will return from Santa Cruz at 6-30 local time.

A BENCH of Presidency Magistrates, Messrs. Chester and Sultan Mohideen Sahib Bahadur, delivered judgment at Madras on Monday in the appeal preferred by Mr. Murray Hammick, Inspector-General of Police, against the decision of the President of the Municipal Commission against his immunity from the profession tax for the current half year, on the ground that he did not for 60 days exercise his profession in the City of Madras. The Magistrates agreed with the decision of the President and dismissed the appeal on the ground that Mr. Murray Hammick, through the Assistant Inspector-General of Police and his office staff was exercising his profession in Madras during the whole of the current half year, though he may have for the greater portion of that period been absent from Madras on tour. It is probable that the case will be referred to the High Court on behalf of Mr. Murray Hammick.

THE Nizam's Government has been advised that the Wondalli (Deccan) Gold Mines Company, Limited, London, after having asked the India Office to cable for sanction for the issue of £100,000 first mortgage debentures, now finds that to issue this amount would necessitate the creation of fresh ordinary stock. The company moreover anticipates that £50,000 will suffice for a year's working. The company therefore is making the present debenture issue for the smaller sum only.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE DERVISHES.

LONDON, MARCH 30.

The Dervishes are still entrenched at Hilgi, and are starving.

RETURN OF THE WAR FEVER IN AMERICA.

The Optimist reports regarding the Spanish concessions to America are not confirmed, and the war feeling in America has been vigorously revived.

Numerous resolutions have been presented to Congress demanding American intervention in Cuba.

DESPATCH OF BRITISH SHIPS TO NORTH CHINA.

The cruisers Rainbow and Edgar have left Hongkong bound northward, and the battleship Centurion and some torpedo-destroyers follow on Thursday.

[The Rainbow is a second-class cruiser of 3,600 tons, and engines of 9,000 horse power, armed with 8 guns. She is in command of Captain Tisdall, and was up to a few weeks ago stationed at Nagasaki. The Edgar, which had just returned to Hongkong from a cruise to the Philippine islands, is a first class cruiser of 7,350 tons and 12,000 horse power, and is armed with twelve guns. Her commander is Captain King Hall. The Centurion is a first-class battleship, and flies the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour, K.C.B. She is a vessel of 10,500 tons, and 13,000 horse power, armed with fourteen guns. Her Commander is Captain Jellicoe. The torpedo boat destroyers on the China station are the Fame, Handy, Hart, and Whiting.]

FURTHER MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH MEN-OF-WAR IN CHINA SEAS.

Her Majesty's ships Powerful, Grafton, and Narcissus have left Chemulpo, but their destination has not transpired.

THE INDIAN CURRENCY QUESTION.

In the House of Commons, last night, a debate took place on the monetary affairs in India, during which Lord George Hamilton said he believed that any attempt to re-open the Mints in India without an international bimetallic agreement would be an act of lunacy.

He was anxious, he said, that the enquiry into the proposals of the Indian Government should commence as soon as possible.

The enquiry will be made by a departmental committee with all the powers of a Royal Commission.

The "Standard" believes that Sir H. Fowler will be the Chairman.

THE FIGHTING IN UGANDA.

Captain Malony, who was wounded in the fighting against the mutinous Sudanese in Uganda, has died of his wounds.

THE MAILS.

ADEN, MARCH 29.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Parramatta, with English mails of the 18th inst., left here for Bombay, at 5 p.m., to-day, and the P. and O. steamer Rome, for Colombo and Australia, at 12 noon, to-day.

PLAGUE IN HYDERABAD TERRITORY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, MARCH 30.

To-day's plague report states that the plague has broken out at Bhaodgoan, in Beder district, where fifteen deaths have occurred. The normal mortality in other infected villages is two or three cases daily.

Dr. Lawrie has just prepared a full report of the plague operations since the outbreak occurred.

GADAG COTTON MILLS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

GADAG, MARCH 29.

The opening ceremony of the Gadag Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, was performed, this evening, in the mill building. The chair was occupied by the Reverend R. Rivington. All the Revenue, Judicial, and Railway officials in the town, as also ladies and gentlemen, including merchants and pleaders, attended to the ceremony. A report giving the history of the mill was read, and speeches followed. The proceedings were enthusiastic throughout. After the usual speech of the chairman, a vote of thanks was proposed to him, and the proceedings terminated with three hearty cheers for her Majesty and the singing of the National Anthem.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

HONGKONG, MARCH 30.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. Hydaspes, (extra), from Bombay, arrived here, yesterday evening.

PLYMOUTH, MARCH 29.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Rewa, arrived here, this morning.

The P. and O. steamer Bengal, from China, arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MARCH 29.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed firmer. Surats dull.

Good Bhownuggur .... 2 28-32.

The Manchester Market has been firmer.

2¾ per cent. Consols 111 1-8
3 per cent. Rentes 103 1-4
3½ per cent. Sterling Silver 113
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper 62 1-8
Bar Silver 25 5-8

The sum of about £200,000, has been withdrawn from the Bank of England.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORTS.

MARCH 30.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, interrupted.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, prefect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.

Private telegrams in secret language for Greece cannot be accepted.

Cable Pernambuco Ceara interrupted.

Private correspondence with Costa Rica is suspended. Diplomatic telegrams alone can be accepted until further notice.

Private telegrams for Costa Rica may be posted from Panama. Rate to be collected is that to Panama. The postage to be collected from sender on telegrams for Costa Rica posted at Panama is usual rate of five annas.

Bhamo route to China interrupted beyond the British Frontier between Yungchang and Tali.

Cable Cayenne Pinheiros interrupted.

With effect from Friday the first of April and until further notice the Tariff per word in messages between India and Europe will be altered to Rupees three per word via Suez or Teheran, five annas a word less via Turkey. Two annas a word to be added from offices in Burma. Complete revised tariffs to all other places will shortly be issued.

Line Saigon Bangkok interrupted.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 30th March 1898.

[Difference in Longitude allowed for.]

Via.	Latest Dates.			Time occupied in transmission.	
	D.	H.	M.	Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	28	12	30 p.m.	49	13
Teheran	30	2	22 p.m.	...	32
Suez	30	3	p.m.	...	8

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 30th March 1898.

—	Maximum Time.		Minimum Time.	
	H.	M.	H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	25	...	4
" Karachi	...	21	..	2
" Madras	..	33	...	1

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INOCULATION.

MR. GILBERT'S SUGGESTION ACCEPTED.

THE following letter has been addressed by the Hon. Mr. A. Wingate, C.I.E., Secretary to Government, to the Secretary, Bombay Chamber of Commerce, in reply to its communication of the 11th ult. :—

Sir,—I have laid before his Excellency the Governor in Council your letter of the 11th ultimo, and the resolution therewith farwarded, in which the Chamber express the opinion that Government should encourage and offer every facility to the people to resort to inoculation, and that with that end in view, Government should ask the Plague Committee to exempt from segregation or detention persons who can produce satisfactory evidence of having been inoculated within an antecedent period of four months.

2. In reply I am directed to state that the attitude of Government towards inoculation has been fully explained in the answer to a question put at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 14th February last to the effect that Government are at present advised that inoculation is still in its experimental stage, but that the results of the experiments are encouraging, and that whilst Government are anxious to afford all facilities in their power to persons who desire to have recourse to inoculation as a measure of protection, it must be clearly understood that such action is to be absolutely voluntary. To this declaration Government must firmly adhere.

3. I am to observe that, so far as Government are aware, inoculation is being given a fair trial, so much so that the number of inoculation stations is far in excess of the demand for operations.

4. I am to add, however, that Government see no objection to the Plague Committee exempting from compulsory removal or detention any persons who can give indisputable proof of having been successfully inoculated by specially selected officers within the preceding four months, but before the last preceding ten days, provided the premises and effects, including personal clothing of such persons are properly disinfected.—I have, etc.,

A. WINGATE,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE following is a list of business to be brought forward at a meeting of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations, to be held in the Durbar Room of the Town Hall on Saturday, the 2nd April, at 12 o'clock noon :—I.—Bills and orders of the day :—(1). A Bill for the improvement of the City of Bombay and to provide space for its future expansion —Third Reading.

THE TRIAL OF THE RIOTERS.

A THIRD CASE OF ARSON.

AT the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, Khodabux Ramjan, Mahomed Fazal, and Abdool Karrim Mahomed were charged with being members of an unlawful assembly and committing mischief by fire, on the 9th instant, at Jail Road. Mr. F. A. Little, Public Prosecutor, assisted by Superintendent Brewin, prosecuted.

Syed Moortezan Fakir Mahomed, a moozavir of the Khoja Mosque, at Jail Road, said that he was at the durgha at about 2 o'clock on Wednesday, the 9th instant. Police Ramosi No. 868, named Shivnath Shivprasad, was with him at the time. He saw a crowd of a hundred persons coming near that place from Baboola Tank Road. They had sticks in their hands, and crying out "maro municipalwalla ko" (strike the municipal people). They were striking at the gharris passing by. They set fire to a municipal plague shed. The three accused took a leading part. The second accused poured oil on the shed, and accused No. 3 struck a match and set fire to the shed. They then proceeded towards the scaffolding attached to the jail, and set fire to the screen of the gallows. No. 2 sprinkled oil over it, and the first and third accused set fire to it. The screen was burnt down and they then ran away. Witness subsequently informed the police about the matter. He knew the accused for a long time.

Khairatisha Kootbudisha, a labourer employed by the Plague Committee in the Plague Office at Jail Road, stated that, at about 2 p.m., on the 9th instant, a crowd of about 150 persons came from the direction of Mochi Gully, Umercady. They were armed with bamboos and sticks. They were crying out, "maro municipalwalla ko" (strike the municipal people). Witness and the ramosi ran into the durgha. Three ambulances were burnt. Witness corroborated the last witness in other particulars.

Some further evidence having been recorded, the accused were committed to take their trial at the next Criminal Sessions of the High Court.

THE IN-COMING MAIL.

THE following is a list of passengers, per s. s. Paramatta, expected to arrive in Bombay at 11 p.m., on Sunday next :—

Austin, Mr J W
Bigg-Wither, Mr L
Besant, Mrs A
Bamford, Mr E H S
Blackwell, Miss L
Croie, Hon M C B
Dixon, Mr F P
Dixon, Mrs
Eckford, Capt J
Edwards, Mr and Mrs
Hart, Mr G E
Hill, Rev F W
Hyde, Surg Lt
Harwood, Miss M
Jones, Mr J A, Mrs and inft
King, Mr F H
Koustan, Mr C H
Logan, Mr J J
Morritt, Miss
McCloughlin, Mr J
Pasley, Mr E H S
Peck, Lt A W
Thornton, Mr L M
Sturrock, Hon J
Scott, Mrs
Shone, Mr A
Shone, Col
Wrench, Major and Mrs

PASSENGERS PER ITALIAN STEAMER SINGAPORE.

THE following is the list of passengers per Italian steamer Singapore, Captain E. Pizzerello, sailing on the 31st instant, at 8 a.m. :—

Adye, Lieut
Berkel, Mr and Mrs and 2 children
Castro, Lieut Nevry
Castro, Mrs
Craig, Mr O
da Cunha, Mrs
da Cunha, Miss
da Cunha, Master Gilbert
da Cortona, Rev Michel, langeola
da Cunha, Mr Francisco
da Silva, Mr J
Dre, Mr
Dganikian, Mr Sarkis
Edwards, Mrs
Fox, Mrs
Fowler, Mrs
Greiff, Mrs Anna and Lady
Gendelmann, Mrs
Hirst, Mr
Judice, Captain Paula
Kaufmann, Miss Anet
Kaufmann, Miss Erwena
Lawrence, Mr
Muir, Mrs, 4 children and infant
Muir, Mr
Orton, Mr
Rosa, Mr
Rosa, Mrs
Taurines, Mrs and girl and 2 Master Taurines
Tyabjee, Mr
Waldron, Captain
Wargan, Mr
Worgon, Lieut J D

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

TO-DAY.

Sailing Dinghy Race. Start at 4 p.m.

Boat's name.	Entered by
Jungli Billi	Mr. E. Comber
Astra	Surg-Lt.-Col H W Boyd
Caprice	Mr. C. H. Byrne
Rose Bud	Mr. C. E. Palmer

Course No. 13, viz., from Committee vessel round Middle Ground Buoy, leaving it to starboard, round mark boat with 'R' flag at South Troopship Buoy, leaving it to starboard, and thence to Committee vessel (twice round). Length of course—3·8 miles.

MAJOR DE WINTON, whose volume of reminiscences—"Soldering Fifty Years Ago : Australia in the Forties"—is published this week, is a retired officer of the 99th Regiment who has had diversified experiences in various quarters of the globe and is endowed with the literary ability to narrate them effectively. He is probably the sole survivor of the party of pioneer settlers who encamped on the shores of Port Curtis half a century ago as the intended founders of Mr. Gladstone's Colony of North Australia, the strange and eventful history of which has recently been told by Mr. J. F. Hogan, M. P. It fell to Major de Winton's lot to hoist the British flag on the spot where the town of Gladstone, the designated Metropolis of vanished North Australia, now stands. The Major's experiences as a Gladstonian pioneer constitute not the least interesting chapter of Mr. Hogan's book. Major de Winton's first connection with the Colonies dates back to 1843, when he went out as commandant of the military guard on board the convict-ship Constance, bound for the penal colony of Van Dieman's Land, then governed by Sir John Franklin, fated soon to die a hero's death in the frozen wastes of the Arctic. The Major's recollections of Sir John and Lady Franklin are very vivid and interesting. People who have been thrilled by that blood-curdling romance of transportation times—"For the Term of his Natural Life" (Bentley)—may be disillusioned to learn that the horrors therein depicted as of ordinary occurrence on Norfolk Island were really exceptional and largely imaginary. Major de Winton held a command in this alleged "hell upon earth" for some years, and he has published an indignant remonstrance against the character given to the place by Marcus Clarke, who never was there, who built up his lurid story from the Blue-books, and who piled all the horrors he could find upon the back of his innocently convicted here.

WARSHIPS ON THE CHINA STATION.

AT the present moment a list of warships on the China Station will prove instructive :—

BRITISH SHIPS.

Name	Description.	Tons	Guns	IHP
Alacrity	despatch-vessel	1700	10	3000
Algerine	sloop	1050	6	1805
Archer	cruiser, 3rd class	1770	6	3500
Barfleur	battleship, 1st class	10500	14	13000
Bonaventure	cruiser, 2nd class	4360	10	9000
Centurion*	battleship, 1st class	10500	14	13000
Daphne	sloop	1150	8	2000
Edgar	cruiser, 1st class	7350	12	12000
Esk	g-bt, 3rd class coast defence	363	2	200
Fame	torpedo boat destroyer	260	6	4000
Firebrand	gunboat, 2nd class	455	2	360
Gibraltar	cruiser, 1st class	7700	12	12000
Grafton**	cruiser, 1st class	7300	12	12000
Handy	torpedo boat destroyer	260	6	4000
Hart	torpedo boat destroyer	260	6	4000
Humber	storeship	1640	...	800
Immortalite	armoured cruiser, 1st class	5600	12	8500
Iphigenia	cruiser, 2nd class	3600	8	9000
Linnet	gunboat, 2nd class	756	2	870
Narcissus	armoured cruiser, 1st class	5600	12	8500
Peacock	gunboat, 1st class	750	6	1200
Phœnix	sloop	1050	6	1400
Pigmy	gunboat, 1st class	750	6	1200
Pique	cruiser, 2nd class	3600	8	9000
Plover	gunboat, 1st class	755	6	1200
Powerful	cruiser, 1st class	14200	14	25000
Rainbow	cruiser, 2nd class	3600	8	9000
Rattler	gunboat, 1st class	715	6	1200
Redpole	gunboat, 2nd class	805	6	1200
Swift	gun-vessel, 2nd class	756	2	870
Tamar	receiving ship	2047	—	—
Tweed	g-bt. 3rd class coast defence	363	2	200
Undaunted	armoured cruiser, 1st class	5600	12	8500
Victor Emanuel	receiving ship	5157	14	—
Victorious	battleship, 1st class	14900	16	12000
Whiting	torpedo boat destroyer	260	6	4000
Wivern	coast defence ship armoured	2750	4	1000

Torpedo Boats in Reserve Nos. 8, 20, 35, 36, 37, and 38, first class ; and 3 second class boats.

*Flagship of Vice-Admiral Sir E H Seymour, KCB

** Flagship of Rear-Admiral Fitzgerald.

FOREIGN WARSHIPS.

The following is a list of the foreign Men-of-War on the China and Japan Stations :—

Name.	Flag and Description.	Tons.	Guns.	H.P.
Admiral Kornieloff	Russian cruiser	5500	16	9000
Admiral Nakhimoff	Russian cruiser	7781	18	8000
Aleout	Russian gunboat	810	2	730
Arcona	German cruiser	1640	8	2930
Argos	Spanish gunboat	503	2	600
Aspic	French gunboat	475	3	450
Bayard	French flagship	6500	12	4500
Bengo	Portuguese gunboat	400	3	400
Bobre	Russian sloop	950	2	1150
Boston	U S cruiser	3000	8	3700
Bruix	French cruiser	—	—	—
Castilla	Spanish cruiser	3260	6	4400
Cebu	Spanish troopship	532	2	600
Comete	French gunboat	495	3	600
Concord	U S cruiser	—	—	—
Cormoran	German cruiser	1640	8	2900
Descartes	French cruiser	4000	14	8500
Deutschland	German ironclad	8000	—	8000
Dimitri Donskoi	Russian cruiser	6000	16	7000
Don Antonio de Ulloa	Spanish cruiser	1200	4	1523
Don Juan de Austria	Spanish cruiser	1130	4	1600
Eclaireur	French cruiser	1653	8	2050
Elcano	Spanish gunboat	560	3	600
Galdamak	Russian gunboat	500	9	3500
Gefion	German 2nd class cruiser	4109	10	9000
General Alava	Spanish troopship	1200	2	1000
General Lezo	Spanish gunboat	520	3	600
Gremiastchy	Russian gunboat	1490	2	2000
Helena	U S gunboat	1392	8	1988
Irene	German cruiser	4200	8	2930
Isla de Cuba	Spanish protected cruiser	1048	4	2200
Isla de Luzon	Spanish protected cruiser	1048	4	2200
Jean Bart	French cruiser	—	—	—
Kaiser	German flagship	7677	15	5700
Kaiserin Augusta	German cruiser	6331	20	14,000
Korejetz	Russian sloop	1200	9	2150
Kreiser	Russian sloop	1542	2	1800
Liberal	Portuguese gunboat	—	—	—
Manila	Spanish transport	1900	2	750
Mandshur	Russian sloop	1200	3	1400
Marques del Duero	Spanish gunboat	500	3	550
Moeve	German	—	—	—
Monocacy	U. S. sloop	1370	6	850
Marco Polo	Italian cruiser	—	—	—
Navarin	Russian 2nd class battleship	10000	4	—
Olympia	U. S flagship	5800	14	17363
Otvajny	Russian gunboat	1490	2	2000
Pamiat Azova	Russian cruiser	6000	15	8000
Panther	Austrian cruiser	1540	2	6000
Pascal	French cruiser	3968	14	8500
Petrel	U. S. gunboat	892	4	1092
Prinzess Wilhelm	German cruiser	4400	12	8300
Reina Cristina	Spanish cruiser	3300	6	3950
Raleigh	U. S. cruiser	3200	11	10000
Rossia	Russian cruiser	13200	—	—
Rurik	Russian flagship	10923	26	13250
Silatch	Russian gunboat	950	2	1125
Sissoi Veliky	Russian 2nd class battleship	10000	14	8500
Sivootch	Russian cruiser	950	2	1120
Surprise	French gunboat	629	2	900
Vauban	French flagship	—	—	—
Velasco	Spanish gunboat	1152	3	1500
Vladimir Monomach	Russian armoured cruiser	5796	16	7000
Vsadnik	Russian gunboat	500	11	3050
Zabijaka	Russian cruiser	1230	6	1194

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Strachey presided at a sitting of the court, yesterday.

RE COLONEL JOHN ANDERSON.

Mr. Russell, on behalf of the insolvent, moved for an extension of the interim order till the 17th August next on the ground that the case was put down in the opposed list, and that there was no likelihood of its being heard before the vacation. In support of the application, the learned counsel submitted a medical certificate, which stated that the insolvent was ill, and that a voyage would be most beneficial to his health.

The judge : When does he want to go ?

Mr. Russell : Early next month, as soon as he i able to go.

The judge : That may mean within a week. What I want to know is whether there is a urgency to do away with the serving of notices to creditors, which, I am told, could be done in a week. The certificate does not show me any urgency for the protection.

Mr. Russell : We will make an affidavit.

The judge directed that the application should be renewed next week.

RE CHHAGANLAL JEWRAJ.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, applied for an extension of the interim order, with leave to serve notices and to amend the schedule. The application was granted.

RE KESHAVJEE KALLIANJI.

Mr. Lowndes, instructed by Messrs. Bicknell, Merwanjee, and Motilal, on behalf of the insolvent, applied for an adjournment of the hearing of the rule calling upon the creditors to show cause why the adjudication order should not be revoked. A deed of composition had been prepared and signed by most of the creditors, but as two of the appeals made by the insolvent were dismissed for want of prosecution, the creditors intended calling a meeting to ascertain whether it was now worth their while to carry out the terms of the composition deed.

The Hon. Mr. Lang opposed the application, stating that his client was a creditor for over two thousand rupees, and that he had never consented to join the composition deed. The learned Advocate urged that the rule should be discharged, and the estate of the insolvent should be wound up by the Official Assignee.

His lordship, after hearing the arguments of counsel, adjourned the hearing of the rule for a fortnight.

RE JAMNADAS PREMCHAND.

Mr. Kothare, for the insolvent, applied for leave to serve notices and to amend the schedule. His lordship granted the application.

RE KHAIRAJ KALLA.

Mr. Abdulla Sayani, for the insolvent, applied for leave to serve notices and to amend the schedule, which was granted.

RE HAJI JAN MAHOMED HAJI JUSUB.

Mr. Manker, for a creditor, Haji Jamal Haji Riza, applied for a rule *nisi* calling upon the Official Assignee and the creditors to show cause why the claim of the petitioning creditor for Rs. 92,000, as assignee of the French Bank, should not be admitted to receive a dividend.

His lordship granted the rule, and made it returnable in a fortnight.

IT wil probably be news to most people (says the "Daily Chronicle") to learn that the ex-Empress Eugenie's maternal grandfather, who died only in 1837 was a pure Scot, William Kirkpatrick by name. His origin is told in a privately-printed history of the Kirkpatricks, the work of a member of the branch which flourishes at Coolmene, Co. Dublin. The Kirkpatricks, who had been established in Galloway and the South of Scotland since A.D. 800, split into two sections in the fifteenth century. The senior line kept Closeburne, Dumfrieshire—and is represented to-day by Sir James Kirkpatrick, a clerk in the Admiralty—while the younger went to Kirkmichael, and produced William, who went to Malaga, in Spain, towards the end of the eighteenth century. He married a Baron's daughter, and his eldest daughter married the Count de Montijo, who became the father of the Empress Eugenie.

THE audiences recently granted by the Sultan to M Zinovieff, the Russian Ambassador, and the conferring upon His Excellency of the Osmanieh Order in brilliants, are regarded in political circles as a set-off to the bestowal of the same order upon the German Ambassador during the last Ramazan.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

THE weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation was held, yesterday afternoon, in the Municipal Office, the Hon'ble Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna presiding. The following members were also present :—Messrs. R. H. Vincent, T. W. Cuffe, Ibrahim Rahimtoolla, Kavasji Merwanji Shroff, Kaikhoshro Nowroji Kabraji, Professor O. V. Muller, the Hon'ble Mr. Fazulbhoy Visram, Drs. A. G. Viegas, N. N. Katrak, Cowasji Hormusji, and K. N. Bahadurji.

PLAGUE SERUM.

The Committee recorded memorandum to the Secretary, dated 28th instant, from the Commissioner, forwarding letter to himself, dated 25th idem, from Mons. W. M. Haffkine, stating the experiments carried out lately in his laboratory upon the effects on plague patients of the serum of immunised animals as prepared at Sewree have only confirmed the negative results established previously. He has written to the Principal, Bombay Veterinary College, in whose charge the Sewree animals are, requesting him (the Principal) to dispense with the establishment at Sewree.

UNDUE PRECIPITATION.

Mr. Barrow, the Secretary, called attention of the meeting to a letter from Mr. Grattan Geary, editor and proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*, complaining about certain papers connected with the Corporation having been published in the *Times of India*, the proprietors of which hold the printing contract of the Municipality, before they were circulated to members and to the Press.

Dr. Viegas : Our printers might be asked not to publish papers before they were circulated among the members.

Mr. Kabraji : After the report is circulated there can be no objection to such papers being published after they had been circulated.

Dr. Viegas : The proprietors of the *Times of India* may be requested not to publish any matter which was sent to them for the purpose of being printed. I am quite sure that our printers will be ready to comply with our request.

The Commissioner said that the *Times of India* people say that they never publish anything sent to them for the purpose of being printed. Some of the reports published by them were what they received from Councillors.

Dr. Viegas : We ought to know the names of such Councillors.

Dr. Cowasji : Members of the Committee might be asked.

Mr. Cuffe said that the *Times of India* might be asked not to publish anything until it was issued to members of the Corporation.

The Chairman : Do you wish to pass any resolution in the matter.

Dr. Viegas : I beg to propose that the *Times of India* may be requested not to publish documents with which they become acquainted as our printers.

Mr. Kabraji : I should like to know what Mr. Geary complains about.

Mr. Barrow said that Mr. Geary had written to him pointing out that documents were printed in the *Times of India* before they were issued to members of the Committee or to the press, but as he had no authority to do anything in the matter he informed Mr. Geary that he would bring this matter before the Standing Committee.

Mr. Barrow here read the letter in question, which was to the effect that the *Times of India*, in its issue of Monday last, printed a report of the Committee appointed to prepare a representation to be made to Government in the matter of the Plague Committee and that it had not then been issued to the press.

Mr. Ibrahim : But that report was circulated to the members on Saturday afternoon. If the *Times of India* had the enterprise of obtaining an early copy of the report for Monday's paper they were perfectly justified in publishing it.

Dr. Viegas : Is it a fact that something has been published which was not to be published ?

Mr. Kabraji : Why should they not publish a report which was public property on Saturday evening.

The Chairman : The gist of the letter is that these complaints are recurring. Mr. Geary means to say that papers before they are sent out to members and the press should not be published.

Mr. Ibrahim : Some of the members may give the documents to the press.

Mr. Cuffe : All this difficulty can be avoided by asking the *Times of India* not to publish anything unless it is made public.

The Chairman : There is no necessity of passing any resolution.

Mr. Kabraji : There is nothing before us to show that the *Times of India* has published anything which was not intended to be published.

Mr. Cuffe said that a report in connection with the City Improvement Bill appeared in the *Times of India* which was not in the hands of the Committee.

Mr. Ibrahim ; It was not even before the Committee. The report as drafted by the Committee appeared in that paper before it was finally considered ; that ought not to have been done.

Dr. Bahadurji said that the *Times of India* might be asked not to publish anything in the paper which was sent for the purpose of being printed for the Corporation.

The Secretary then read the resolution, which was framed as follows :—That the Secretary be asked to address the proprietor of the *Times of India* and request that in future papers sent to them in their capacity of printers to the Corporation may not be published in the *Times of India* until such papers have been made public.

Dr. Viegas moved the above proposition.

Mr. Cuffe seconded it.

Dr. Katrak : The resolution has no connection with Mr. Geary's communication.

Dr. Viegas : It has come to our knowledge that a paper has been published.

Dr. Katrak : But Mr. Geary does not make any mention about that paper.

Mr. Cuffe : But Mr. Geary says that it has been done on several occasions.

Dr. Viegas : It is a question of fairness.

The resolution was then put to the vote, and carried *nem con*.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN.

At the conclusion of the business before the meeting,

Dr. Viegas drew attention of the Committee to the fact that it was the last meeting of the present Standing Committee, and that, therefore, it was desirable to take the opportunity of thanking their chairman. He said that they should pass a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for the courtesy and consideration he had shown towards the members of the Committee and for the promptitude which he brought to bear in the discharge of his onerous duties. He had presided over the Committee for the last three years ; during which time they had ample opportunities of appreciating his great abilities and other qualities required in a chairman. He, therefore, moved a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for the able manner in which he performed his duties.

Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtoola, in seconding the proposition, remarked that although they felt regret at his ceasing to be their chairman, it was a matter of great satisfaction to them that after presiding over the deliberations for a period of three years he was now going to preside at the Corporation. As a chairman of the Standing Committee he had very hard work to do, and performed it to the entire satisfaction of them all.

Mr. Cuffe agreed with what had fallen from the previous speakers, and remarked that Dr. Bhalchandra's devotion to public duties was worthy of imitation.

The Municipal Commissioner said : The Hon. Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna has been for three years chairman of the Standing Committee, and during all that period has discharged his duties with conspicuous aiblity, courtesy, and fairness. Of all the chairmen the Committee has had it would be hard to point to one who has been a greater success, and I have no doubt that it is a matter of great gratification to the members that Dr. Bhalchandra is shortly to be elected President of the Corporation, however much his services will be missed here. The Chairman of the Standing Committee has to be in such close touch with the Commissioner in the discharge of Municipal business, that it becomes a matter of importance to have not merely an able man, but one who is prepared to sacrifice such of his time to onerous public duties. In this Dr. Bhalchandra has never failed, and his three years of hard work as chairman of this Committee will stand out conspicuously among the many examples of devotion to public duty to be found in the annals of this city. (Loud applause.)

The proposition being put to the vote was carried by acclamation.

The Hon. Dr. Bhalchandra, in replying said : Gentlemen,—I feel greatly touched by the very kind sentiments expressed by you all. During the last three years for which I had the honour of presiding over the deliberations of this body, I have simply endeavoured to do my duty, and if I have given you any satisfaction it is more due to your kind support and indulgence than to any special merit on my part. I am glad to observe that our relations have been of the most cordial nature, and I have to thank you heartily for the patient and considerate manner in which all of you dealt with questions of importance that came before this Committee. My task as Chairman was rendered comparatively easy by the kind and sympathetic assistance rendered to us by our worthy Commissioner. You well remember the friction that constantly occurred between the Standing Committee and the Commissioner some years ago, especially during the discussions of the Budgets, and the temper that was displayed on those occasions. Mr. Snow during his tenure of office inaugurated a new policy, as I remarked the other day at the Corporation, and has endeavoured to remove such friction not only between this body and the Commissioner, but between the Corporation and the Commissioner, and between himself and the several departments. He has made the working of the Municipal machinery smooth and easy and has instilled a new spirit in the whole Municipal administration. (Applause.) Mr. Snow has accomplished this by his pursuasive manners, and above all, his fairness to all interests concerned. (Applause.) You will all agree with me when I say that it has been a pleasure to work with him. In no less a degree has our work been rendered easy by our energetic, hard-working, and courteous Secretary. Mr. Barrow, with his long and intimate acquaintance with Municipal affairs, has rendered very valuable services both to the Corporation and the Standing Commttee, and deserves our best thanks as well as some substantial recognition. (Loud applause.)

The Committee then adjourned.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results :—

WARDS.		No. of Attacks.	No. of Deaths from Bubonic Plague.	Total Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	3
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	1	0	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	
	Fort, Northern	1	0	
	Esplanade	1	0	
B	Mandvie	4	2	23
	Chuckla	0	1	
	Umarkhady	6	1	
	Dongri	2	2	
C	Market	5	0	29
	Dhobi Talao	4	4	
	Fanaswady	18	1	
	Bhuleshwar	5	1	
	Khara Talao	0	0	
	Kumbarwada	4	1	
D	Khetwady	5	4	18
	Girgaum	0	3	
	Chowpatty	7	1	
	Walkeshwar	2	0	
	Mahaluxmi	2	3	
E	Mazagon	1	3	69
	Tarwady	1	2	
	Second Nagpada	0	1	
	Kamatipura	2	3	
	Tardeo	4a	4	
	Byculla	11	15	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	9	12	33
	Sewree	1	0	
	Sion	4	0	
G	Mahim	6	1	11
	Worlee	3	2	
	Water Division	0	0	1
	N.-R. & Unknown	58	1	
	HOSPITALS.			
	Parsee		0	57
	Jain		0	
	Grant Road		4	
	St George's		0	
	H M,s Com Prison		0	
	Wari Bunder		0	
	Adamjee Peerbhoy		0	
	Jain, Parel		6	
	Telagu		0	
	Albless		0	
	Hindu		4	
	Soonee		3	
	Arthur Road	1b	4	
	Nizampura		1	
	Khoja		1	
	Dariasthan		2	
	Modykhana		7	
	Port Trust		5	
	Port Trust S Camp	1	0	
	Police		1	
	Narielwady		4	
	Marwadi Fatehpur		1	
	Marine L Military	1	0	
	Genl Mahomedan		1	
	Greaves Cotton & Co.		1	
	Govt. House, Parel		2	
	Maratha		8	
	Byculla S Camp		1	
	Morland Rd S Camp.	3	0	
	Total	173	119	244
	Total plague deaths to date	26,573	23,224	
	Total same date last year	95	77	168

a One European.

b From Sion Railway station on his way from Bombay to Talegaum.

CHOLERA.

Attack 0
Death 1

DECLINE OF THE MORTALITY.

It is satisfactory to learn that there was a marked decline in the total mortality yesterday (Wednesday), giving earnest that the epidemic has spent its force.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

These reports showed that in the Colaba District there were no cases or deaths from plague recorded. In the Fort District one case of plague occurred at No. 11, Ravelin Street, and was removed to the Arthur Road Hospital. Three other cases belonging to other districts were removed—two from the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital and one from the Cama Hospital—to the Modikhana Hospital. In the Mandvie District three cases of plague and two deaths due to the same disease were recorded. In C ward (south), only the Dhobie Talao section showed four cases of plague, the other sections, Market and Fanaswady, having clean bills. In the same ward (north)—Kumbarwada, Khara Talao, and Bhuleshwar—one case and five deaths were recorded. In D ward (east) the medical officers inspected twenty-seven houses, including fourteen chawls. Dr. Foy removed a case of plague ; Dr. Mackenzie detected a case of plague from No. 262, Girgaum Back Road ; Dr. Seervai removed a case from house No. 62, Khetwady Back Road ; Dr. Jather detected one case from No. 246, Girgaum Road, and Dr. DaCosta removed one from Dhunji Ookarda's Chawl, and certified one death from plague in house No. 69, Mugbhat Lane. Twenty-two contacts were removed. In the same ward (west) 264 houses and 36 chawls were visited by the sectional staff. One case of plague was removed, and one has been kept under observation. One death from plague was recorded. In E ward ten cases and six deaths were recorded in the Byculla section ; one case and one death in the Mazagon section ; two cases and no deaths in the Nagpada section ; no cases and one death in the Kamatipura section, and no case and one death in the Tardeo section. In the Parel and Mahim wards twelve cases of plague and an equal number of deaths due to the same disease were recorded.

SEGREGATION CAMPS.

There were, yesterday, 1,178 persons in the Goculdas Tejpal Segregation Camp ; 726 persons in the Churney Road Camp ; 337 persons in the Modikhana Camp ? and 183 persons in the Wari Bunder Camp.

INFLUX AND EXODUS.

During the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, the number of persons who left Bombay and entered the city by sea and land was as follows :—Arrivals by sea 1,192, and by land through Mahim and Sion Causeways 1,970, making a total of 3,162 persons. Departures by sea 1,142, and by land through Mahim and Sion Causeways 2,070, making a total of 3,212 persons.

INOCULATION.

Daily report of inoculation at Khoshroo Lodge :—Monday.—Khojas 8 ; and other nationalities 2 ;—total 11. Total to date—Khojas 6,985 ; and other nationalites 1,796. Grand total 8,781.

The Secretaries of the Kapole and Lad Joint Plague Hospital acknowledge the sum of Rs. 200 contributed by Mr. Tribhowandas Vurjeewandps to the Hospital Fund in memory of his late daughther-in-law, Bai Krishnabai.

THE King and Queen of Denmark's ball, which took place in the Knights Hall of the Amalienborg Palace at Copenhagen the other night, was very brilliant. The members of the Royal Family, the Corps Diplomatique and Ministers, and a large number of the Danish nobility were invited, besides numerous officials and many officers of both services. King Christian (says the *Westminster Gazette*) danced quadrilles with his daughters-in-law the Crown Princess and Princess Waldemar, and with his grand-daughter Princess Thyra, after which his Majesty played whist until the trumpet sounded for supper. Unluckily Princess Charless was prevented from attending the ball by an attack of rheumatism, and it is rumoured that her Royal Highness will accompany the King of Denmark to Wiesbaden at the beginning of May for a course of the waters before she comes to England for the summer.

GENERAL VISCOUNT BRIDPORT, who is an Extra Equerry-in-Waiting to the Queen, has sold his estates near Chard, Somerset, and will shortly take up his residence at the Royal Lodge, Windsor Park, which has been granted him for life by the Queen. In Somerset he holds many public appointments and is greatly esteemed. The Chard Town Council has decided to present his lordship with the freedom of the borough to be enclosed in a silver casket.

IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

DEBATE ON THE BUDGET.

SPEECH BY THE VICEROY.

DEFENCE OF FRONTIER OFFICERS AND POLICY.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

THE discussion on the Budget took place in the Imperial Legislative Council on Monday.

Sir James Westland, referring to two items in the accounts for the ensuing year, said that as regards the provision for increasing the pay of the British soldier the sum of 20 lakhs had been allotted, but probably more would be required. The Government had been in communication with the Secretary of State on the subject, but it was not yet settled if the extra 2d. a day to the soldier was to be given from April 1st or later. If given with effect from that date 45 lakhs would be required. Eventually the cost would work down to about 27 lakhs, when the men now entitled to deferred pay had left the army. If the increase in pay were postponed some months, the charge for the ensuing year would be about 27 lakhs. He would have provided a larger sum than 20 lakhs, but he knew that the prospects of peace on the frontier had improved, and there would probably be a saving of about 20 lakhs on the estimate about 1¼ crores for the continuance of the war there. The corrections would therefore counter-balance each other in the accounts. Referring to the introduction of the British Indian currency into the Bhopal State he said the operation would be completed by the 31st instant. It had been carried out more easily and successfully than had been anticipated. A similar change was about to be made in Kashmir, but this could be done without legislation. It was not so large a business as it had been in Bhopal, and the Government hoped similar success would be obtained.

Mr. Allan Arthur, in the course of an interesting speech, congratulated Sir James Westland on presenting what had been rightly called a prosperity Budget. In the interests of the people of India it was to be hoped the recuporative power of the country would prove to be vast as our financial authorities anticipated. He reviewed the trade of India during the 20 years chosen by Sir James Westland for his financial review in the Budget. Taking periods of four years he showed that the export and import trade had risen from 434 crores in 1878-81 to 719 crores in 1894-97, but whereas the rate of increase in 1882-85 was 24 per cent, it was only 5¼ per cent. in 1894-97. Considering how the country had been developed by railways, how a falling exchange was supposed to stimulate exports, and looking at the strides made by many gold standard countries, one was inclined to doubt whether the progress of Indian trade was as satisfactory as it at first sight appeared to be. It behoved one to consider whether the fiscal policy of India was all it should be and whether the vast sums that had disappeared in loss by exchange would not have been better spent in reducing taxation and giving India complete and absolute and permanent fixity of exchange with the other great commercial countries of the world, thereby attracting capital for the development of the great natural resources of this fertile land. It was gratifying to be told that there was to be no further taxation, but he could imagine no greater tax or burden on the trade and industries of a country than a high and prolonged high bank rate. This rate in India was now 12 per cent, and it had been at 9 per cent. or over since December. There was no sign of relief, and in fact everything pointed in the opposite direction. Mr. Allan Arthur continued : It is said there are enormous crops to be mowed of wheat and other cereals, and on top of that there is the announcement that the Government intend to issue a rupee loan of three crores. Unless relief comes from some quarter at present undisclosed I fear from the experience of last year's loan that Government will be offered a rate which no strong Government dare for the sake of their own credit accept, or if they are offered a fair rate due to temporarily cheap money a re-action will inevitably set in and the withdrawal by Government of three crores of rupees from the money market will lead to renewed stringency, with all its disastrous and strangling effects on the trade and industries of the country. While it is readily understood that it is difficult for the Government to take the country into their confidence with regard to the exact proposals which the Secretary of State has stated will form the subject of an immediate inquiry, I regret for the reasons I have pointed out that the Financial Member has not seen his way to make an announcement in regard to the general policy of the Government in connection with the currency before the Government leave for Simla, for the relief of the minds of bankers and traders whose operations cannot fail to be terribly hampered by the uncertainty that prevails in regard to the future. A country which has a record of 20 years financial equilibrium, notwithstanding grievous famines and costly wars, and is able to borrow on better terms than almost any nation except the United Kingdom is surely in a position to dictate to the rest of the world what her standard of value is to be, and it is to be hoped Her Majesty's Ministers in deciding the momentous question now before them will be guided solely by the interests of India, and not by America or by the demands of the selfish few at home who desire to flood India with a depreciating metal in the vain hope that bimetallism will be established or exchange with the Far East slightly raised, or with the other few who fear that the withdrawal of gold to India may effect their interests adversely. There are certain sections of our community who benefit to some extent by a falling exchange. There are some, notably those who are interested in tea and indigo, who while desiring fixity of exchange consider a rate of 1s. 4d. too high, and there are others who doubt the feasibility of establishing a gold standard. But anyone who has followed the discussions in the Indian press during the last three months must admit that the great body of the commercial community join the Government of India in their desire to have the currency of India linked with that of the mother country. What one section of the community gains from a fall in exchange another section must lose, although this is of only temporary effect, whereas all will benefit by the free flow of capital which fixity of exchange will give, and I maintain that in a question of this kind it is the interests and wishes of those concerned that should be considered, and not those of any small party at home however powerful.

After referring to the action contemplated by the bimetallists at Home, Mr. Allan Arthur said the ultimate object of bimetallism was to secure a ratio of 15 1-2 to 1-4 which would mean a 1s. 11d. rupee. As he had already pointed out this would mean a colossal cyclonic disturbance of Indian trade and insolvency to traders and agriculturists of all classes. The Government of India had decided to try the gold standard cure for their currency troubles, and it was to be presumed the Secretary of State would place their proposals before the very best expert opinion available, that is, of men who are not strong patisans on any particular side. If the inquiry to be made was referred to a committee of gold monometallists, silver monometallists, and bimetallists, the result could only be absolute confusion, much lamentable delay, and a continued policy of inaction. Prolonged delay could not fail to end in disaster, a word which it was to be devoutly hoped would never be applied to her Majesty's Government in India.

Mr. Chitnavis made a long and rather rambling speech, in which he touched upon so many subjects outside the range of the Budget that Sir James Westland appealed to the Viceroy on a point of order. The hon'ble member, he said, had begun to discuss theories such as the payment of land revenue in kind theories which had been exploded years ago.

The Viceroy, while expressing sympathy in a way with Mr. Chitnavis, who had this one opportunity of expressing his views, remarked that some of the matter in his speech was scarcely within the scope of a discussion on the Budget Statement.

Mr. Chitnavis bowed to this decision, and omitting that portion of his speech which was pessimistic in tone, he concluded by a graceful referrence to the Viceroy's retirement, and wished him the blessing of health to continue a distinguished career at home.

Pundit Suraj Kaul's speech was read by Mr. Macpherson, Legislative Secretary. He expressed satisfaction at the prospect of an early conclusion of the war on the North-West border, and quoted the opinion of men of experience who had said that peace on the frontier meant peace in India. Regret was expressed that the English Government had not seen their way to bear a share of the expenses connected with the war, and Pundit Suraj Kaul gratefully acknowledged on behalf of the Punjab the generous assistance given to the people who had suffered from famine.

Mr. Nicholson (Madras), in a thoughtful speech, drew attention to the marked shrinkage in the opium revenue, to which, in his opinion, scarcely sufficient attention had been paid. He also referred to the large imports of silver bullion, noticing as remarkable the fact that even during the year of famine 1,100 tons of silver valued at Rs. 10,00,00,000 had reached India. It would be interesting to know exactly what this large import meant, and how the agricultural classes were affected by it. Was the ryot who purchased silver for ornaments being cheated as the intrinsic value of the rupee was only 11d., though its exchange value was now about 1s. 4d. ? The ryot knew nothing of these figures or how silver had fallen in value. Mr. Nicholson urged the advisability of an increase in the duty on imported silver. This would give a considerable revenue and at the same time raise the value of all the silver now in the country. Mr. Nicholson strongly advocated the establishment of small village banks to aid the cultivating class, and urged that the departments of Land Records and Agriculture should do some practical work in improving agricultural operations. At present those provincial departments practically spent all the money assigned to them on work connected only with land records. This he argued was a mistaken policy.

Mr. La Touche in a brief speech referred to the manner in which the famine had been dealt with, and spoke very hopefully of the present harvest prosects in the N.-W. P. and Oudh. This would give a and revenue, and if the next monsoon was good he collections of revenue suspended during the famine would be ensured. He quoted figures showing how already the collections of land revenue had improved.

Sir Griffiths Evans said the financial results as shown in the Budget were better than could have been expected, while the figures for 1898-99 showed that India was capable of bearing its present burdens, and need not apply for help from England. The rate of exchange, however, was fixed at 1s. 3 3-8d., and it remained to be seen whether with large Council drawings this rate could be maintained without something being done to solve the exchange problem. He took it that after this fixing of so high a rate for the ensuing year there was no intention of abandoning the currency scheme, but rather of completing it. Whatever was intended to be done should be done as quickly as possible. As regards the war on the frontier he said that when the British Government was attacked it was bound to give the tribesmen a lesson. The great empires of the past had had to bear attacks, and the first sign of their decadence was inability to repel assaults on their frontiers. It was absolutely necessary for Government to re-assert its power and this had been successfully done. The tribesmen had been shown what the British power could do, and he hoped it would be long before another lesson had to be given to them. As regarded future measures Sir Griffith Evans urged the adoption of a definite policy under which it would be clearly laid down what positions were to be held, and what passes dominated. He expressed his admiration for the work done by the Tirah Field Force in a country which was most difficult for operations by a civilised army. He referred in conclusion to the very defective information which was forthcoming before the frontier outbreaks occurred. Government, he said, seemed to have no information of what was going to happen. Whether it was a mutiny, a frontier rising, or a riot, the first warning always came in the shape of an accomplished fact. Could nothing be done, he asked, to remedy this state of things by a larger employment of secret service money, or by some other means. That the unexpected should occasionally happen was inevitable, but that nothing should ever happen in India except the unexpected was indeed remarkable.

Mr. Ananda Charlu in the course of his remarks regretted that the currency question was still unsettled. He condemned the policy of closed mints as having done great injury to agriculturalists. He felt sure, however, the able Finance Member would settle the question before he left India, and would not go with the feeling of "After me the deluge." Mr. Charlu also expressed regret that England had not contributed towards the cost of the frontier war. He eulogized Lord Elgin's conduct of public affairs in the Legislative Council, and joined with Mr. Chitnavis in wishing His Excellency health and a prosperous career in England.

Mr. H. E. M. James asked the Finance Member for information on two points, first, whether there was any prospect within a measureable time of reducing the salt tax; second, whether any progress had been made within the past year in putting the provincial contracts and taxation on a more satisfactory footing.

Sir Henry Prinsep confined his remarks to the question of the revenue and expenditure of the Civil Courts. He combated the principle laid down last year by Sir James Westland that such courts as a whole throughout India should pay their way. In Bengal there was a surplus of 14 lakhs per annum, in Bombay a deficiency of ten lakhs, in Burma one of eight lakhs, &c. His argument was directed to show that Bengal should not be made to pay for the cost of civil justice elsewhere, but that a more liberal expenditure in that Province should be sanctioned for the civil courts, which were in urgent need of it as judges were underpaid. The proper policy of the Government was that laid down by Sir Henry Mayne, namely, that in the matter of civil justice the Government should bear one part of the expenditure, and litigants the other.

Mr. Stevens, referring to the famine operations in Bengal, said the experience gained in relieving the distress in Behar confirmed in the most striking manner the wisdom on the policy of railway extension.

Babu Joy Gobind Law spoke in favour of steps being taken to mitigate the sufferings of the people in recurring famines. He advocated the building of more irrigation works. Referring to the currency problem be expressed the hope that something more definite than the legislation of 1893 was not far off.

Pandit Bishambar Nath, after stating that the discussion on the Budget served no practical purpose has no alterations in the financial statement could be made, drew attention to the fact that the deficit was larger than in any year since the Mutiny. With famine, plague and war in land, the people had heard with a feeling of despondency that the Home Government would not make a contribution towards the cost of the frontier operations. Such a decision was deplorable. Referring to the estimates for the ensuing year he said he failed to see the necessity for a three-crore loan. The surplus budgeted for was of an unreliable character, but he hoped the year would be as prosperous as was anticipated. He paid a tribute of admiration to Lord Elgin's just and successful administration of India during his term of office.

Mr. Sayani made a very long speech in the course of which he distinguished himself by saying that the real cause of the poverty of the country and the inability of the people to resist famine was the exploitation of India by foreigners, and of the people by money-lenders.

Sir A. Trevor expressed himself as gratified at the open support given to the railway policy by honourable members, more especially Mr. Stevens. The Government were to be congratulated, at least, in having at last taken up railway construction on a scale commensurate with its importance.

Sir Edwin Collen in the course of his speech said the scheme of military transport re-organisation was interrupted last year by the stain of the war. The whole question had been again taken up, and with the experience gained in the field and in the preparations for war service he felt convinced they would be able to improve the transport system by the establishment of cadres of transport capable of rapid expansion, and by the addition of a stronger staff both of officers and subordinates. This, together with the increase in the transport itself, would undoubtedly cost money, but it was essential to the efficiency of the army, and the security of the country. Referring to mobilisation Sir Edwin Collen said the scheme had received a severe trial, and although they had not come very badly out of that trial, yet some critics had compared what had been done with the work of mobilisation for the Chitral Campaign, and had said that the Government plan failed to a certain extent. He, however, pointed out how different were the circumstances of the case in the Chitral Campaign. There was only one objective and the resistence was not prolonged, and above all the force in the field was comparatively small. Last year various field forces had to be mobilised one after another, and if the dates were looked at it would be seen the troops moved in a very short time. He rebutted the charges advanced in the English papers against the Medical Department during the Tirah Campaign, showing how false these were. Referring to the outbreaks on the frontier Sir E. Collen argued that they were not due to any real grievances tribesmen might have, but to fanatical excitement. He added: What we have to do now, and I am speaking of our military responsibilities, is to follow out the policy which Her Majesty's Government have laid down. All the military questions which are involved in that policy are being considered. The subject is a great one, but I hope we shall succeed in working out a plan of frontier defence which, while providing for the safety of the border and the security of the main routes, will make for peaceful relations with the tribes. Sir E. Collen said the warmest acknowledgments of Government were due to the Army departments for the admirable service they had performed during the military operations, and he associated with them the railway, telegraph, postal departments, whose co-operations and work both in India and the field had been of the highest value. He concluded by saying: A striking feature in these frontier campaigns has been the way in which they have called forth the loyal and martial spirit of the great chieftains of the Native States of this country, who have vied with each other in placing their Imperial Service Troops at the disposal of the Government. During the last nine months the army in India, British and Native, has been severely tried. Forces have had to be suddenly placed in the field, sometimes in the hottest season of the year; they have had to contend against a well armed enemy fighting in a difficult and mountainous country; and we have to deplore the loss of many brave men. The late Commander-in-Chief in his farewell Orders eulogised the conduct of the Army, and gave separate expression to his admiration of and gratitude to the Native Army of India. Sir William Lockhart and the other General Officers Commanding the Field Forces have shown how the officers and men have upheld the traditions of their corps, and the honour of Her Majesty's British and Native Army, and how nobly that Army responded to the great call which was made upon it.

Sir James Westland replied on the whole debate. Referring to the currency question he said the despatch of the Government on the gold standard was in the hands of the Secretary of State, who would publish it when a Committee had been appointed to consider the proposals which it contained. He had authority to say definitely on behalf of the Government of India that the silver standard was now a question of the past. No return to open mints was now possible. The time had gone by for any such thing, and the Government had determined to set their face against it. Sir James Westland replied to Mr. Sayani's attack on the administration of the country. The honourable member has, he said, forgotten for the moment who his audience were. Statements of the inheritance of accumlated misery of the Indian people, of high taxation, of the improverished condition of the Indian peasants, ect., would meet with applause before other audiences whom Mr. Sayani had addressed, but when before the Governor-General and the members of the Imperial Legislation Council Mr. Sayani was addressing officers of the Government and non-official gentlemen who knew that these statements were utterly overcoloured, if not the contrary of truth, and would not render him that applause which any other audience might have done.

(To be concluded.)

NEWS OF THE DAY.

In view of the danger of plague infection, railway companies are forbidden to book passengers from the Bombay Presidency (excluding Sind), the Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts in the Punjab, or from Hydérabad State to any of the following fairs:—The Ramnaumi Fair at Ajudhia in the N. W. P., the Chiraghan Fair at Lahore, the fairs at Chitrakot in Central India, and the Vanpakshaswami festival at Hampi in Bellary district, Madras.

The Hon'ble Mr. Arnold White, the new Advocate-General of Madras, according to the local *Mail*, has taken a sure way to win the good opinion of at least one section of Madras people by his readiness, so soon after his arrival, to assist at the anniversary meeting of the Madras University Union, and, what is still more to the purpose, by thoroughly entering into the spirit of the meeting.

The appeal of the Inspector-General of Police in Madras, against the levy of a profession tax by the Madras Municipality notwithstanding that he only spent a very short period each year in the station, has been dismissed by the Presidency Magistrates; the bench holding that the appellant "resided" in Madras within the meaning of the Act, even while absent on tour. As this is a test case to which some importance is attached, it is to be presumed the High Court will be asked finally to decide the point at issue.

A new Imperial Anglo-Indian Association was inaugurated in Calcutta on Monday evening: the plan proposed by the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association being unanimously adopted at the annual general meeting. It is, we believe, the intention of the Association to start a daily newspaper of its own.

The P. and O. s.s. Borneo, while leaving Yokohama harbour outward bound, at about 6-30 a.m., 20th ult., was run into on the starboard quarter by the Japanese steamer Woyo-maru, an accident which resulted in serious damage to both vessels, and will necessitate the detention of the P. and O. boat some twenty-one days in port, before repairs can be effected.

The total number of deaths registered in Calcutta during the week ending the 19th of March was 305, against 340 and 272 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 106. There were 11 deaths from cholera, against 15 and 18 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 63. There were three deaths from small-pox during the week, against two in the previous week. There were two deaths ftom tetanus against three in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 120 and 20, respectively, against 119 and 32 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 34·1 per mille per annum, against 42·3 the mean of the last five years.

Mr. Charles Dillon, barrister-at-law, was formally gazetted to officiate as a Puisne Judge of the Allahabad High Court on Monday. The appointment of Mr. Dillon has given much satisfaction to the members of the Bar of the N.-W. Provinces, says the Pioneer, with whom Mr. Dillon has always been very popular, and deservedly so. Mr. Dillon will be an acquisition to the Bench, where his ability and industry will be of great assistance to his colleagues. Mr. Dillon has practised at Aligarh and Allahabad ever since he arrived in India after his call to the Bar in 1871, and he for some time acted as Public Prosecutor in the High Court. Unassuming and retiring he has been best known to those whose business leads them to the courts of law, but with them his credit stands very high. This, by the way, is the fifth instance of late years in which by natural selection a member of the Allahabad Bar has been appointed to act as judge of one of the Supreme Courts of Judicature in India.

The malcontent sections of the Zakka Khel have been giving trouble. Fourteen marauders waylaid a party of officers returning with an escort to Barkai from Mamani between 5 and 6 p. m. on Saturday. Captain Margessan, Norfolk Regiment, was slightly, and a man of the Gordon Highlanders severely wounded. A pony was killed. During the same night these raiders carried off a mule from Mamani camp after killing the transport driver.

Some Zakka or Kuki Khel also appear to have ventured into the Khyber again, as 300 yards of telegraph wire were carried off near the mouth of the pass on Saturday night. These last efforts are plainly intended as a protest by a small minority against the action of the Afridis who have submited.

In the Allahabad High Court on Monday judgment was given in the case in which eight men appealed against convictions on a charge of murdering a canal patrol and his servant at Bhojpur in the district of Saharanpur. For the credit of human nature, writes the local paper, we are glad to think that few such fiendish crimes are committed in civilised or uncivilised communities. By the side of this case the ordinary cold-blooded murder for the sake of gain or to satisfy feelings of revenge stands out as comparatively humane. Kaura Sing, one of the victims, having made himself unpopular, a number of men met together and planned to take their revenge. Having bought over one of the deceased man's servants they proceeded the following night to the hut where he slept, and ascertaining from the servant that his master was inside asleep with another servant they locked the two men in, like rats in a cage, and setting fire to the thatch roasted their victims to death. They stood calmly round the hut listening unmoved to the cries of the doomed men, and waiting armed with "lathis" to finish their brutal work should either of the unhappy victims succeed in forcing his way out of the burning hut. A more atrocious or dastardly crime it would be impossible to conceive. Against the unfortunate servant, who perished with his master, not one of the degraded wretches who planned the crime had even a shadow of ill-feeling, but they were too intent on their revenge to spare a thought for him. The confirmation of the sentences passed upon these men was most richly deserved, and the strong terms of reprobation in which their lordships, Mr. Justice Blair and Mr. Justice Aikman, spoke of the part taken by one of the men who confessed must be heartily approved. In our opinion the crime of this man, Abdul Rahman, was worse than that of any of the others. He had no quarrel with Kaura Sing, who had always been a kind master, and he had no ties of blood or religion to give him an excuse for joining the rest of the party in perpetrating this murder. Even his youth and the assistance he gave the prosecution by his confessions do not mitigate the enormity of his guilt, and their lordships did not overstate the case when he said that purely judicial considerations would have justified the infliction of the heighest penalty of the law. Before judgment was delivered Mr. Justice Aikman modified to some extent the severity of his remarks about certain incidents of the case to which we have already alluded.

Alarmist rumours were circulated on Tuesday (March 9) concerning the health of the Queen, and the fact that her journey to the Continent had been postponed was made the most of, especially in the City. The truth is that Her Majesty was somewhat indisposed on Monday from the effects of a slight cold. The indisposition, however, was only momentary, and did not hinder a Privy Council being held at Windsor on Monday, followed by a dinner party, at which the French Ambassador and Sir Thomas Sanderson, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, were present. On Tuesday Her Majesty went out driving in a closed carriage. On Wednesday Her Majesty drove in the grounds of Windsor Castle both in the morning and afternoon. It was announced, however, that, in consequence of the unsettled state of the weather and the rough seas in the Channel, a further postponement of Her Majesty's journey to the Riviera might be necessary. Lord James of Hereford, who will act as Minister-in-Attendance during the first portion of Her Majesty's stay in the South of France, left Windsor on Wednesday for Nice. On March 10 the Queen, Princess Christian, and Princess Henry and Princes Leopold and Maurice of Battenberg left Windsor for the Continent. Portsmouth Dockyard was reached about 6-20 p.m. The Royal travellers proceeded immediately on board the Victoria and Albert, in which they slept for the night. Her Majesty crosses to Cherbourg to-day, sleeps again in the yacht and proceeds next day, via Paris and Marseilles, to Nice. The President of the French Republic will, in all probability, meet the Queen at the junction of the lines of the West and the South. He has commanded a special train for the purpose.

The provincial authorities at Damascus are about to take a census of the Arabs of Jerusalem district with a view to compelling them to perform military service.

The return match between Mr. Stoddart's team and the Victoria eleven was commenced at Melbourne in magnificent weather. The Australians won the toss and at the close of play had scored 283 for nine wickets (Trumble, 107; Stuckey, 59; Trott, 39).

Augustus Colin Aitken, 30, bank manager, pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey on March 9 to an indictment charging him with conspiring to defraud, and with applying to his own purposes sums of money received on behalf of the Klondike Gold Mining and Trading Company (Ltd.), of which he was a director. The Recorder said he was satisfied that Edgar Lavigny (another director, who had absconded) was the controlling spirit of the swindle, and sentenced Aitken to fifteen months' imprisonment with hard labour.

The "Schweitzerische Militar-Zeitschrift" has recently given some very interesting particulars of a winter march of two batteries with one hundred horses which took place more than a year ago. The endurance displayed by both men and horses was remarkable. The march—broken by a four days' interval, of which three days were given up to firing practice—lasted twelve days. The way taken was from Morges, by Villeneuve, Sepey, La Comballaz, Chateau d'Oex, Zweisimmen, Thun, Schwartzenburg, Freiburg, Orbe, and Biere to Morges again, and the distance covered was nearly 202 miles, the average daily march thus approaching seventeen miles. The greatest height reached was 4,750ft., or not quite 590ft. below the Schneekoppe, and 900ft. above the Brocken. The weather began with rain and snow, followed by a heavy snowfall, succeeded by wind, with smooth ice, more snow, and finally rain. The thermometer never rose higher than 46·4deg., F., and once fell to 6·2deg., or about 26deg. of frost. Our contemporary gives a full account of the difficulties encountered through snow, wind, and ice, particularly in the passage of a bridge approached by a wooded declivity with a sharp climb beyond. The way was narrow, crooked, and difficult, and the guns skidded against the parapet of the bridge. Three hours were occupied in digging a track and harnessing the horses in a single line. The march was conducted as under the conditions of war, and on favourable days some minor operations were gone through. The Swiss artillery is often exercised in mountain marching both in summer and winter. Before the march began the horses received their winter shoes, fifteen men doing the work in 14 1-2 working hours, or at the rate of about one hour and five minutes for each horse. On the march thirty-five shoes were cast.

A lecture on "Picturesque Canada" was delivered by Sir Henry Cunningham at the Cadogan Rooms, Hans-roads, S. W., on March 3rd, in aid of the Working Ladies Guild, which was founded by Lady Mary Fielding in 1877 for assisting unmarried or widowed gentlewomen in need of employment or in temporary difficulty. The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava presided, and those present included the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, the Countess of Lytton and Lady Constance Lytton, Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart and Lady Stewart. The lecturer conducted his audience on an imaginary journey through the Dominion of Canada, from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific, and, with the aid of lantern views, described some of the country's most picturesque scenes and chief industries. It comprised, he said, a number of young and vigorous communities who had formed themselves into the greatest federation the world had ever seen, and whose sense of devotion to the mother country was extremely great. The chairman, in thanking Sir H. Cunningham on behalf of the audience for his lecture, said that in listening to him both Lady Dufferin and himself seemed to live the period of their stay in Canada over again. Each scene was connected with some agreeable memory in their recollection, and again filled their hearts with the most lively enthusiasm for the noble people who inhabited the Dominion. On the motion of Sir Donald Stewart a vote of thanks was passed to Lord Dufferin for presiding.

The Queen has approved the appointment of Mr. John Newell Jordan, C.M.G., Consul-General at Seoul to be Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at that capital. Mr. Jordan entered the Civil Service in 1876, when he was appointed a student interpreter in China. He was Acting Consul at Kiungchow from 1882 to 1884, and at Amoy for a few months in 1886. For various periods between 1887 and 1891 Mr. Jordan was Acting Assistant Chinese Secretary, and for some time Acting Chinese Secretary. In 1895 he was given the local rank of Second Secretary to the Legation at Pekin. He was promoted to be Consul-General for Korea, to reside at Seoul on Oct. 27, 1896. At the Jubilee year he was made a C.M.G., and subsequently Mr. Jordan received the Jubilee Medal.

King Bell of Cammeroons is dead, and with his decease the native Kings of Cameroons come to an end. King Bell was about seventy years old.

Information has been received from Egypt of the murder at Magageh of William Camp, valet to Earl Cowper, who was attending his lordship on his tour with the Countess up the Nile.

Colonel Manning, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner and Consul-General in the British Central Africa Protecorate, telegraphs from Zomba that the recent campaign has been brought to a successful conclusion. The rebel chief Mpseni surrendered voluntarily to the Protectorate troops on Feb. 9, and the latter have returned to their usual quarters.

Sooner or later so stirring an incident in the annals of British warfare, as was that of the charge of the Gordon Highlanders at Dargai on Oct. 20 last, the while their wounded piper played "The Cock of the North," was sure to be painted, and Mr. Allan Stewart has elected to do it "sooner." The picture is on view in the Nelson room at 148, New Bond-street, and, although it is unfinished, it is advanced qaite far enough to show that it is a fitting compliment to "The Last Stand of Major Wilson," painted by the same artist two years ago. Pictorially, the canvas suffers by necessary prevalence of the monotone belonging to a mass of karkee uniform, and this, again, is akin to the mighty rocks in which frontier tribesmen are concealed and to the huge fragments over which the besiegers stumble. Of course, tartan kilts and scarlet chequered hosen serve to break up this field of one tint, though it must be allowed by a degree of spottiness. Nevertheless, this does not militate against the sense of heroic rush that is conveyed, heroic in that it looks so utterly hopeless ever to dislodge an enemy occupying an apparently impregnable position. A thrill runs through one on remembering (what indeed an admirably descriptive pamphlet handed to visitors repeats) that Colonel Mathias, as battle-call, said, "Gordons the General has ordered that position to be taken at any cost. The Gordons will take it." In the rear of the Gordons who are charging up the slope are men of the Derbys, Dorsets, and Sikhs, for not the Highlanders alone were left dead on the ground that day, Captain Smith, of the Derbys, is seen among the slain, and a wounded officer is Major Macbean, while Colonel Mathias and Captain Miller Wallnut are represented clearly, though without undue prominence. At the base of the picture lie four wreaths of palm and bay, with ribbons bearing respectively Dorsets, Gordons, Gurkhas, and Derbys.

"How Animals Come to the Zoo" is the title of a brightly-written article by Mr. C. J. Cornish, which appears in the March number of the "Windsor Magazine." Speaking of the heavy cost entailed by the purchase of many of the animals, he says: "The first expensive purchase made for the Zoo was an Indian rhinoceros, bought in 1834. The price was merely alluded to as 'heavy'; but, as for that year the cost of purchasing animals was £1,200, while in the previous year only £160 was spent, the animal probably cost not much less than £1,000. The society had extraordinary luck in their rhinoceros-collecting, whether by purchase or otherwise, though the animals cost a small fortune. In 1875 they bought of Mr. Jamrach a rhinoceros never before seen in Europe, for the great price of £1,250. This was believed to be a Sumatran rhinoceros, though it came from Chittagong. A few months later some undoubted Sumatran rhinoceroses were shipped to England, and one was purchased, also of Mr. Jamrach, for £600. This was found to differ from the first, which was not only a new species, but at that time the only specimen known to exist! It was named the 'hairy-eared rhinoceros' and several have since been obtained. Another rhinoceros, from the Straits of Sunda, was then bought for £800, so that at a cost of £3,850 the Zoological Gardens were able to exhibit all the species of rhinoceros found in Asia. Other high prices paid are £100 for the first chimpanzee, £800 for a young hippopotamus, and £600 far a giraffe."

NAGPUR NOTES.

Our correspondent, writing on Monday, says:—Mr. Fuller, Commissioner of the Jubbulpore Division, gave a cup, valued at Rs. 200, to be competed for by the E. I. R., G. I. P., and N. V. Rifles at Jabbulpore. A committee was duly formed, conditions prescribed, and on last Saturday week the competition came off on the N. V. R. range at Jubbulpore. The latter corps were alone in evidence, and fulfilled all the required conditions. The other two corps were conspicuous by their absence. It is now a question whether the N. V. R. are eligible for the trophy, the other two losing it by default.

Colonel Wynne, A.-D.-C., Commandant of the B.-N. R. Rifles, has arranged that the String Band of the corps shall play every Saturday in the Maharaj Baugh Garden during moonlight nights, commencing from Saturday week.

At about 2-15 p.m., on Friday, a frightful accident occurred at the B.-N. Railway Workshops, which resulted in the death of an European chargeman, named Gordon, and that of one Gool Mahomed, a fitter, as also serious injuries to three other native workmen. The occasion of the accident was the bursting of the air compressing chamber of an engine which was being used to test the gas under one of the passenger vehicles. This was being manipulated by Gordon, when suddenly an explosion, like the firing of a gun, occurred, and the heavy cast-iron air chamber of the machine was shattered, large fragments being hurled in all directions. One of these, weighing over fifty pounds, struck Gordon and threw him bodily against an adjoining engine-room, a distance of some thirty feet from where he stood, while another heavy piece struck Gool Mahomed, who fell dead on the spot, both men being frightfully cut about the face and body. Gordon survived for about half-an-hour and then expired. Dr. Lakhdawalla, who was apprised of the accident, hastened to the scene and dressed the wounds of the three other men, and Dr. Harris, with Hospital Assistant Abdul Aziz, later, attended. Gordon, who was quite a young man, leaves a widow and three children.

The competition for the Central Provinces and Berar cup came off on the B.-N. Rifle range here on the morning of Saturday last, the 19th instant, between teams of the N. V. Rifles and the Railway Corps. The Beraris, as usual, did not enter for the contest, which was throughout keen among the competitors, but the fates decided against the local corps, and the railway men once again secured the coveted trophy, being better in time by 1 minute and 21 seconds than their adversaries, who in 72 rounds knocked over 1 figure at 800 yards, 1 at 700, 1 at 600, 2 at 500, and the rest at 300 yards. The N. V. Rifles fired 101 shots.

Our station is quite empty, as a large contingent of bodies went to England by the last out-going mail and the s. s. Caledonia accommodated not a small number of them.—The hot season has set in, and though not with usual violence, but we shall have our share of it. Yesterday, being Passion Sunday, Bishop F. Pelvat preached with his usual unction and taste, taking for his text, "My Soul is even sorrowful unto Death." In the morning Fr. DaCosta preached an eloquent sermon, and brought to bear upon his hearers the terrible accident of Friday, and the sudden call that God makes on us.—The sudden and unexpected death of Dr. D. Godinho has caused much grief amongst his numerous friends at this station.

BASSEIN BURIAL FEES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—I trust the letter published in your yesterday's issue regarding church fees in Bassein will attract the attention of the Bishop of Damaun. That community, I mean the Bassein Catholics, is really a poor one and one of the backwardest class of the people under the benign sway of her Majesty the Queen-Empress. That the laity in Bassein are far inferior to the clergy in point of material comforts is an admitted fact; that the people are humble and submissive is equally true. To impose on those Catholics higher fees is to lay on them a burden which they can ill-bear, and one cannot understand why the weak and the poor should be made to contribute more largely towards the support of a class which to all intents and purposes is much better off. While, however, heavier payments are sought to be obtained from the people, it must not be forgotten that the education of the Basseinites has been neglected. In the jurisdiction of his Grace the Archbishop of Bombay there are schools and convents for the education of the people. One looks in vain for such an institution in parishes subject to the spiritual sway of the Bishop of Damaun. When there was an opportunity for the Bassein Catholics to change their jurisdiction and go over to the other side they remained inactive and blindly stuck to their guides, the Goanese clergy. I cannot, however, blame the people, because they were, and are yet, unable to see where their true interest lies. I shall be glad if the Bassein people unite and represent their grievances to the Delegate Apostolic, who may see his way to bringing the local complaints to the notice of the Holy Father. But in the case of a community like that of Bassein Catholics, one despairs of an united or organized action.—Yours, &c.,

AN OBSERVER.

II.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—The parishioners of the nine churches of Bassein base their case on facts and figures. I would solicit Mr. D'Souza's attention to the arguments set out in the representation that was published by you. His Lordship the Bishop of Damaun if he thought that no case had been made out against the increase of burial fees, etc., could point out the unsoundness of the arguments urged in the representation. The Vicars in Bassein have, in the opinion of the people concerned, been well paid, and no reason has yet been shown why the emoluments should be increased. I am a native of Bassein and know the people better than Mr. D'Souza of Dadur. It is true we cannot pay so handsomely and municificently as the Vicar of Dadur is paid from the rich coffers of that church; but that is no reason why a poor community should be laid under contribution for the enrichment of well-to-do clergy. If the Bishop of Damaun ignores their grievances, I can only say that it is their misfortune.—Yours, &c.,

March, 29. A BASSEIN CATHOLIC.

DAILY EXPORTS.—March 30.

For Liverpool.

Australia—18 bales wool M Balla, 480 bales cotton Ralli Brothers.

For London.

Fitzpatrick—180 cwt olibanum and 300 cwt gum N, Cassambhoy & Co 14 bales hides, Pestonjee Eduljee Bayce, 51 bales hemp, Wagjee Bacher. 210 cwt gum, M Jaffer, 18 cwt cuppilia, F Koobchand.

From Hull.

Mikado—2,000 cwt jowari A Blascheck and Co.

For Havre.

Fitzpatrick—50 bales cotton. 501 cwts mustardseed, Prier de Soone and Co. 200 cwts poppyseed, Ralli Brothers.

For St. Petersburg.

Mikado—2,000 cwts castorseed, Finlay Muir and Co.

For Marseilles.

Australia s—3,000 cwt teelseed, 24 cwt wheat, Ralli Brothers.

Kirkfield s—900 cwt wheat, John Fachiri.

Kt Bachelor s—2,000 cwt wheat, E D Sassoon and Co, 840 cwt wheat, Finlay Muir and Co.

For Antwerp.

Istrar s—220 bales cotton, Ralli Brothers, 220 bales cotton. The New Mofussil Co, 4,002 cwt linseed 2,001 cwt rapeseed, Owen and Okeill, 100 bales hemp, Purshotum Bhimjee. 110 bales cotton, Glade and Co.

Clan Macra s—558 cwt castorseed, 500 cwt myrambollams, Nansy Khairaz and Co, 220 bales cotton, 135 cwt teelseed, Ralli Brothers 1,080 cwt linseed Owen and Okeill, 951 cwt castorseed Killick Nixon and Co.

For Hamburg.

Radley s—80 cwt coir yarn, Runchordas Khetsee and Co, 260 cwt coir yarn Bharmul Poonsee, 100 bales cotton, Prier de Saone and Co, 13 cwt peacock feathers, Pallonjee Dadabhoy, Ayrton 135 cwt weedseed, Bauer Krause.

Rudeishcmer s—600 cwt myrabollams, Volkart Brothers.

FOR LEGHORN

Singapore s—189 cwts linseed, 32 cwt wheat, Killick Nixon and Co.

For Trieste.

Frilyon s—770 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co, 500 cwts Myrobollams, Volkart Brothers, 440 bales cotton, Prier deSaone and Co.

For Venice.

Trelyon s—150 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co,

For Hongkong.

Coromandel s—4 chests opium it A Esmall and Co, 11 chests opium C Bomanjee and Co.

For Shanghai.

Coromandel s—5 chests opium, David Sassoon and Co.

For Calcutta.

Pemba s—200 bales cotton, Pheroze C Sethna.

I. M. RAILWAY.

W. E. 19th February 1898.

Description.	1898.	1897.	Inc. for the week.	Dec. for the week.	Aggregate Inc.	Aggregate Dec.
Miles Open ...	940	940	...	...	...	...
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers, Parcels, &c.	40,320	57,304	...	16,984	...	4,337
Goods	87,609	76,301	11,308	...	21,280	...
Other earnings	3,833	5,769	...	1,936	4,537	...
Total for week	1,31,762	1,39,374	...	7,612	...	...
Aggregate ...	9,83,582	9,59,102	...	...	24,480	...

Fear is expressed at Belgrade that complications between Russia and Turkey will arise out of the present state of affairs on the Turko-Balkan frontier.

THE ALBION MILK AND SULPHUR SOAP.—Pure, Mild, and Emollient.—This essentially complexion Soap is most agreeable and beneficial in use, especially where the skin is sensitive, or has become roughened by exposure on land or sea. It never irritates, and hence with its soothing and pleasantly purifying tendency is particularly valuable in hot climates. A luxury for the Toilet and the Bath. Indispensable for Children, Creamy lathers, delicately perfumed. Sold by all Chemists and Stores.

LORD ROBERTS ON FRONTIER POLICY.

(Concluded from Monday's "Bombay Gazette.")

THE AGGRESSIVE ACTION OF RUSSIA.

Lord Roberts concluding his speech in the Lords on this subject said:—This measure had only just been determined upon when the aggressive action of Russia on the northern boundary of Afghanistan necessitated the railway being extended to Chaman, and sufficient material stored there to carry it on to Kandahar if occasion should require. It was much the same with Kuram. There was such anxiety to give up what we had gained that, after I had, under instructions from the Government of India, and in accordance with the earnest solicitations of the people, promised that, in return for the help they had afforded us, we would never desert them, but would continue to preserve them from the hated Afghan rule, we abandoned them to their fate—only to be obliged to return a few years later. (Hear, hear.) We have heard, my lords, a good deal of righteous indignation expressed lately at a supposed breach of faith on the part of the Government of India in making a road, with the consent of the people, to Chitral; but was there ever such a breach of faith as that abandonment of Kuram, and the desertion of a people who had done us good service after our solemn promise to stand by them? And is it not strange that that breach of faith has never aroused the least indignation or been denounced by any one except by the unfortunate people of Kuram themselves? At first they refused to believe that we really meant to act towards them in such a faithless manner, and implored us to remain and befriend them. But when the time for our departure arrived and the general officer commanding had to read the proclamation intimating to them that our troops were to be withdrawn, the greybeards stood up in the durbar and upbraided the Government in no measured terms. Their words were:—"We welcomed you as friends when you first arrived amongst us and relieved us from the tyrannical Afghan Government. We freely met your demands for supplies, raised levies for the escort of your convoys, and assisted you in your operations. We identified ourselves with you and we had made enemies outside our territories thereby. Now, on your leaving us, all peace and security will be gone, internal feuds will again be revived. We can not govern ourselves, as there are two parties amongst us, one of whom is certain to call in the Afghans. We believed that we were to remain under your Government." After we left anarchy again reigned supreme, and the people of Kuram entreated us to return and take them under our rule. At length, in 1892-93, we were forced to send troops into the valley to restore order, and we reasumed political control. Peace and security once more prevail, and the Turi Militia under British officers are now doing us loyal service. (Hear, hear.) Our relations with the Gilghit frontier exemplify in even a more remarkable manner the impossibility of our being able to keep aloof from the strategical points on the natural boundary of our great Indian Empire. As far back as 1873 Lord Northbrook, the then Viceroy, considered it necessary to establish a British officer at Gilghit for the purpose of watching British enterests on a frontier to which the Russians had advanced, Lord Lytton continued his predecessor's policy, and, shortly before the Afghan war, he deemed it advisable to depute the Resident at Gilghit to proceed as far as Chitral; but at the close of the war this officer was withdrawn, and the whole of that frontier was left in the charge of the Kashmir authorities. It was, however, found impossible to continue this course, and in 1885, when there seemed every probability of war between Russia and Afghanistan, the Earl of Dufferin, finding it necessary to have more complete information regarding the Gilghit frontier, despatched a mission under Colonel, now General Sir William Lockhart, to examine and report on the several passes, and to enter into definite relations with the ruler of Chitral, over which State, in consequence of its proximity to the Hindu Kush range, the Viceroy considered it essential to exert our influence. The same policy was followed by Lord Dufferin's successor, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and by the present Viceroy the Earl of Elgin, warmly supported by the members of their respective Councils.

A CONSENSUS OF VICEREGAL OPINION.

Thus, my lords, we see that, during the last twenty-five years, five out of six Viceroys beginning with Lord Northbrook, whatever their political opinions, were unanimous as to the wisdom of our having control over the Gilghit frontier, and that four of them found it necessary to extend that control to Chitral, It is difficult, therefore, to understand how, in the face of such a consensus of opinion on the part of those who have the best means of judging, people comparatively ignorant of the subject should think themselves entitled to raise such an outcry as we have recently heard against our remaining on the Chitral frontier. (Cheers.) For myself, I will only say that, in my opinion, it is imperative for us to occupy that northernmost corner of the great natural frontier of India; for, although I consider the chance of a successful attack upon India from that direction as infinitesimal—(Hear, hear, from the Opposition)—the danger of allowing even 2000 or 3000 Cossacks to cross either the Kilik, Dorah, or Baroghil Pass would be great, for the report of their presence in Chitral would cause a vast amount of excitement and alarm in Kashmir and the Punjab, and would have, a most disturbing effect on the restless and warlike races along the border. (Hear, hear.) It is sometimes urged, my lords, as a reason against our endeavouring to get control over the inhabitants in the central part of the frontier, that they are more difficult to deal with than the people of Baluchistan. Baluchis, no doubt, are less fanatical than Pathans, but they are just as warlike and were just as much given to pillaging and murdering as their more northern neighbours. Moreover, a great number of the inhabitants of Baluchistan are Pathans, while in Gilgit and Chitral the characteristics of the people are infinitely more Pathan than Baluch. The truth is, my lords, that Pathans (robbers and murderers though they may be because they know no better) are fine, gallant fellows, and, like Orientals everywhere, are responsive to vigorous and sympathetic treatment, as we know from our experience of those of them who have served in our ranks. (Hear, hear.) If our present operations are followed up by an administrator of the Sandeman stamp being placed in political charge of the frontier tribes, by the occupation of some commanding position in Afridiland which will ensure our having the control of the Khaibar Pass and will form a much-needed sanitarium for the fever-stricken garrisons in the Peshawar Valley, by giving the tribesmen employment on such roads and railways as may be needed for our requirements, and if we make our influence felt in establishing law and order without interfering with their habits, customs, or religion, the Afridis and, in time, the rest of the border tribes, will settle down and become not only peaceful neighbours but as brave and loyal soldiers in our service as the Sikhs, Gurkhas, and other warlike races who have fought against us have proved themselves to be. (Cheers.) It is impossible to doubt this my lords, when we call to mind the recent splendid behaviour of the Khaibar Rifles, who, even after having been deprived in a most incomprehensible manner of the support of their British officer at the time when that support was most needed, defended Lundi Kotal against their own kith and kin until overcome by numbers, when they retired to Jamrud, and have since been fighting alongside our Regular troops. (Hear, hear.)

RUSSIA'S PRESENT POSITION IN ASIA.

If, my lords, you will bear with me a little longer—(cheers)—while I refer in a few words to the position which Russia now occupies in Asia, I trust I shall be able to explain to your satisfaction why I differ from those who think that we can afford to disregard Russia's advance, and believe that physical difficulties and want of supplies and transport would prevent her from again bringing about complications in Afghanistan which would necessitate our once more entering that country. My lords, when we recollect the enormous physical difficulties that the energy, perseverance, and intrepidity of her soldiers have enabled Russia to successfully overcome in gaining her present position, it is ridiculous to suppose that any obstacles that are now before her, in the comparatively short distance that separates her from Afghanistan, could deter her from making a further onward move if she wishes to do so. (Hear, hear.) Twice during the last sixty years Russia has compelled us to go to war with Afghanistan by sending her emissaries to Kabul. On the first occasion she could not possibly have backed up any diplomatic arrangements by force of arms, on account of the distance which separated her from Afghanistan; and on the second occasion, although she had approached considerably nearer, and had actually a column in readiness for the purpose of assisting the Amir, it would have been difficult for her to have collected an army of sufficient strength to oppose us, for the Caspain Sea route was not then opened, there were no railways in Turkestan, and troops would have had to march all the way round by Orenburgh. Six years later (1885), when war between Russia and Afghanistan seemed probable and we began to mobilise in India, in pursuance of our agreement with the present Amir, a Russian army could have reached Herat almost as quickly as we could have reached Kandahar. (Hear, hear.) Thirteen years have elapsed since then, during which time Russia's position in Asia has so immeasurably improved that she is at least as favourably situated as we are for a further move. My lords, there is no blame attaching to Russia for having gained the position she now occupies. I, for one, recognise the immense good effected by her having made herself mistress of the slave dealing Khanates of Turkestan, and I see clearly that the same power which impelled us to move northwards from the Bay of Bengal to the Indus has impelled her to move northwards from Orenburg to the Oxus. Up to these points neither of us interfere directly with the other, but Russia is near enough now to make the people of India anxious as to her future movements, and to unsettle their minds, unless we show ourselves determined to stop any further advance. (Hear, hear.) It seems to me, therefore, absolutely necessary for us to set our frontier in order and to prepare for contingencies which any reasonable person must admit to be possible, if not probable. (Hear, hear.) My lords, I have been derided as a Russophobe, and taunted with being disturbed by a phantom forward movement of Russia. Well, my lords, I do not object to the appellation of Russophobe, if Russophobe means one who is convinced that the forces of civilisation will compel Great Britain and Russia to eventually meet in Asia, and who is equally convinced that if Russia is ever allowed to cross the great Hindu Kush barrier and possess herself of Afghanistan and the borderland, an attack on India would be merely a matter of time. This barrier, my lords, Russia must never be allowed to cross. (Hear, hear.)

"I AM NO RUSSOPHOBE . . . BUT I LOVE INDIA."

I am no Russophobe in the sense of being fearful as to the result of a meeting of the forces of Great Britain and Russia; but, my lords, I love India—(hear, hear)—and in her interests and in the interests of the trade and commerce of our own country, I desire to make every effort to delay the meeting as long as possible, and to insure that when it does take place it shall be as far from our possessions and under circumstances as favourable to India as possible. (Hear, hear.) I lay the greatest stress, my lords, on our never permitting an enemy to set foot on Indian soil, for, although I thoroughly belive in the loyalty of the native chiefs and of the varied and various races who inhabit the vast continent of Hindustan, it would be foolish to forget that they are not our own flesh and blood, and that their loyalty is the outcome of their belief in our invincibility and of their reliance on our power to defend them, and it would be unreasonable to expect them to keep their faith in us if ever we were to allow an invader to pass the great mountain range that separates India from Central Asia. If we are true to ourselves the people of India will be true to us. (Cheers.) There is one point of view from which I have not discussed this question, and that is the financial point of view; not because I do not recognise its immense importance, but because it has not seemed to me to be my business. I conceive it to be my duty, as one who has had peculiar opportunities of making himself acquainted with our position on the North-West frontier of India, to lay before you as clearly as I am able to do the reasons for the policy I advocate, and which I believe to be the only policy that can insure the safety of India; and it it for you, my lords, and the nation to decide on the course to be followed. I can only venture to express my firm conviction that, whatever may be the cost of the measures I propose, the cost, to say nothing of the danger to the Empire, will be infinitely greater if we allow matters to drift until we are obliged, in order to resist aggression in Afghanistan, to hurriedly mobilise a sufficient force to subdue the hostile tribes through whose country we should have to pass before we could reach those strategical positions which it is essential we should be able to occupy without delay, if we do not intend to allow India—that brightest jewel in Great British Crown—to pass out of our safe keeping. (Cheers.)

THE NEW ZOLA.

M. Zola's "Paris" writes an interviewer, is hardly to be reckoned among his masterpieces. In "Lourdes" and "Rome," the two other members of what is rather magniloquently called "The Trilogy of the Three Cities," there was, in spite of obvious faults, a human interest which redeemed the books, and made them something more than tracts for the times, or pictures of the nineteenth century in the lurid medium of M. Zola's imagination. But "Paris" is a laborious effort to cover the ground in a manner which cannot be artistic as a whole, and which in detail, is for the most part highly disagreeable. In order that the book may be complete, every class in Paris must make its appearance, every phase of high life and low life (it is as a rule low life in both cases) must be described. Our old friend from Lourdes and Rome, the Abbe Pierre Froment, is once more the peg on which it all has to hang. The unfortunate man is kept trotting from pillar to post, appearing here, reappearing there, passing breathlessly from the financier's drawing-room to the slums of Montmartre, from the church to the chamber, from the salon of the old *noblesse* to the boudoir of the demi-mondaine, not because there is any cogent reason why he should visit such places, but because the colossal enterprise of his creator, M. Zola, requires that he should see everything and expose everything. As if this were not enough, the unfortunate Abbe has in his single person to symbolise all the emotions of the whole of humanity. "Taking the Trilogy as a whole," says Mr. Vizetelly, who to his translation adds a review of this masterpiece," one will find that it is essentially symbolical. Abbe Froment is a man, and his struggles are the struggles between Religion, as personified by the Roman Catholic Church, on the one hand, and Reason and Life on the other." Can we wonder if Abbe Froment's mind, as presented to us in this book, is a seething cauldron of awful emotions?

These conditions are inherently inartistic. The story becomes a mere thread which has to accommodate a certain number of beads; the leading character has to work like a Cook's tourist, with the added obligation of finding a plausible excuse for his incessant vagrancies. Thus for the first hundred pages the Abbe has to go to about eight houses (of whose inmates and their generally sordid proceedings the reader has to learn the fullest details) on the pretext of getting a ticket of admission to a hospital for a man whom he has found in the last extremity of starvation. By the time he has got the ticket the man is of course dead, but M Zola's object of exploring life is advanced by a complete inventory of the contents of about six houses. The book ought to be supplied with an index, or at least a catalogue. Indeed, with the aid of Mr. Vizetelly's introduction it is not difficult to construct something of the kind. The characters include:

One Jewish banker
One aged countess (old *noblesse*)
One cosmopolitan princess
One mechanic
Two Anarchists
One "petty clerk"
One actress (low type)
One symbolist
One *blasé* youth
Journalists, "venal and impudent"
One scientist

Three priests
One manufacturer
Several Ministers
Ditto Deputies (venal and otherwise)
"Social theoricians" (a great many)
Women of all types ("most loathsome and most lovable," generally the former)
Journalists "mendacious and even filthy"

The scenes are as various as at a Drury Lane drama of Life. But here let Mr. Vizetelly draw up the play-bill:

The actual scenes depicted are quite as kaleidoscopic as are the characters in their variety. We enter the banker's gilded saloon and the hovel of the pauper, the busy factory, the priest's retired home, and the laboratory of the scientist. We wait in the lobbies of the Chamber of Deputies, and afterwards witness "a great debate"; we penetrate into the private sanctum of a Minister of the Interior; we attend a fashionable wedding at the Madeleine, and a first performance at the Comedie Francaise: we dine at the Cafe Anglais, and listen to a notorious vocalist in a low music-hall at Montmartre; we pursue an Anarchist through the Bois de Boulogne; we slip into the Assize Court and see that Anarchist tried there; we afterwards gaze upon his execution by the guillotine; we are also on the boulevard when the lamps are lighted for a long night of revelry, and we stroll along the quiet streets in the small hours of the morning, when crime and homeless want are prowling round.

Such is a fairly comprehensive catalogue of the latest Zola. We hardly know what to add in criticism. Paris, as M. Zola presents it, is corrupt from top to bottom, its public life blighted by venality, its private life by intrigues about women. The rich plunge into lurid dissipation, the poor lie under incredible misery. The atmosphere is a stifling, gaseous, mephitic. Finer characters there are, but they are mostly without ballast or good sense. They are immensely impressed with the social problem, but their ideas are confused and rhetorical. All the little things escape them while they dream of grandiose and improbable solutions. So they become talkers, dreamers, anarchists, who froth over many pages, but are never practical reformers. It is of little use and would be a tedions business to attempt to summarise the plot. It contains the usual intrigue, this time more than usually repulsive, since mother and daughter are contending for the same lover. For the rest, there is an Anarchist who is guillotined with dreadful details, and the Abbe Pierre "symbolises" the evolution of humanity by unrocking himself and emerging into Reason, Life, and Love. It is Mr. Vizetelly's opinion, and, we suppose also, M. Zola's, that France will lead the world in abjuring Christianity, and discovering the new religion which is to be based on human principles. That opinion dates from the middle of the eighteenth century, and the new religion has in the interval been tried at least once.

We are far from saying that there are not interesting passages and even powerful passages in this book, but, as a whole, it is tiresome and exaggerated. The grandiose and the "colossal" and the rhetorical seem to grow on M. Zola, and there is neither charm nor gaiety to redeem his exposures of the seamy side of life. Paris and the French people are, we persist in thinking, a great deal better than he would let us believe. We do not profess to have explored the miseries of the Paris poor, but M. Zola's descriptions of them are precisely such as a literary man with a lurid imagination might write about the London poor on the strength of hasty visits to common lodging-houses. That is to say, they would be profoundly untrue of the mass, for it takes a first-hand and intimate knowledge to measure either the sufferings or the virtues of the very poor. There is probably a corresponding exaggeration in M. Zola's descriptions of the vices of high life. It is M. Zola's habit, for all his industry, to see life excitedly and in fragments.

We have not had an opportunity of comparing Mr. Vizetelly' translation with the original, but it seems to us excellent.

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WRITERS AND READERS.

Sir George Robinson is now writing the story of the siege and relief of Chitral, a matter which lingers fresh in the public mind. He is just the man, of course, to do this, for he was in command at Fort Chitral. Sir George Robinson is already known to readers for a book on the Kafirs of Northeen India. His new volume will probably appear in the early autumn.

We are to get a book by Johansen, who was Nansen's companion in the famous sledge journey. He made arrangements for its publication in English during his recent visit to this country. It is not unlikely that it may first appear serially in one of the popular magazines. The volume is all written, and, indeed, is at the moment being published in parts in Norway. Johansen describes the Nansen expedition largely from the standpoint of what befell himself. His narrative is decidedly stirring, and its interest will be enhanced by illustrations.

Mr. Merediths's well-known essay on comedy is to be added to the six shilling Meredith edition which Messrs. Constable are publishing. This has been decided on in response to the requests of many people who wished to possess the essay in book form. There was a buckram edition of it not long ago, but it seems that the copies were very soon exhausted. Until then it had never been reprinted from the review for which Mr. Meredith originally wrote it. Subscribers to the collected Meredith will assume that the essay is to be included there, and they are right in the assumption.

Mr. Zangwill's Dreamers of the Ghetto, is a long book—nearly 500 pages. It has as prelude a littlepœm entitled Moses and Jesus, and then the opening paper bears a general application to those that follow. In it Mr Zangwill sketches the surroundings of a child of the Venetian Ghetto. Circumstances of a kindred nature influenced the great personalities of Jewry who pass in this dreamland procession. The list includes Lasalle, Heine, Spinoza and Beaconsfield, the Primrose Sphinx. Taken as a whole the book is this —a chronicle of dreamers who have arisen in the Ghetto from its establishment up to our own day.

Mr. Henry Newbolt's Admiral All, which has attracted so much attention, is now selling in its sixth thousand. Its successor in Mr. Elkin Mathews's shilling Garland Series is to be a volume of Indian elegies and love songs, by an Indian poet, Mr. Manmohan Ghose. Mr. Mathews has also nearly ready an independent volume of verse entitled Anothes Sheaf. The poet is Mr. Warwick Bond, who edited the works of William Basse. Further, Mr. Mathews is just about to publish a book which consists of impressionists studies of child life in Wales. They are entitled Some Welsh Children, and they are by a Welsh lady, who now makes her second venture in authorship.

Mr. H. B. Irving's study of Judge Jeffreys is now promised by Mr. Heinemann for the end of the month. It aims at two things. First, to fill a gap in the biograpical literature of the seventeenth century; and, second, to reproduce the general features of a period during which the proceedings of the courts of law were intimately associated with the history of the nation. Mr. Irving has gone thoroughly into all the materials which could throw light on the career of Jeffreys. There will be three portraits of the notorious judge—one showing him as Recorder of London, another as Lord Chief Justice, the last as Lord Chancellor; also a facsimile of a letter in his hand-writting.

Two works, which tell American history from different standpoints, are promised by Messrs. Putnams. One is entitled Thirty Years of American Finance and is by an authority on the subject, Mr. Dana Noyes. This is a short financial history of the government and people of the United States since the Civil War. The other work is quite an important venture, for it is a biographical survey of American politics from the inauguration of Jefferson to the close of the nineteenth century. The author is Professor Coit Tyler, who is already known for a literary history of the American Revolution. His new undertaking will be in four volumes, and will have the title A Century of Amarican Statesmen.

The Russian censor will not need to trouble about Mr. Trevor-Battye's coming book., A Northern Highway of the Tsar. He will see these words after the title page: Inscribed by gracious permission to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia. Anyhow, the volume could contain nothing temerarious in respect to Russian politics, since it is simply an account of an adventurous journey. Mr. Trevor-Battye was ice-bound on Kolguev, and returned to civilisation through Northern Russia. He had to travel at a time of the year—between autumn and winter—when nature made travelling all but impossible. That was the element which give the excitment. Messrs. Constable publish the book next week.

Archdeacon Agien, of St. Andrews., is perparing a volume which describes itself in the title Lessons in Old Testament History. The Archdeacon is known for his scholarly contributions to the Encyclopædia Britannica, for his translations of the Odes of Horace, and as the edition of the selections from the writings of Dean Stanley. Mr. Arnold, who will publish the book, also has another on the verge of being ready It is the Letters of Mary Sibylla Holland, selected and edited by her son, Mr. Bernard Holland. This book has the charm of a collection of letters written with no thought but to please, convey affection, help, or console. Apart from that the letters are said to manifest a real power of literary style.

The native troubles in India will give a certain interest to a book Messrs. Constable are just sending out. It consists of two native accounts of events during the Indian Mutiny. They have been edited by Colonel Metcalf, from the original manuscripts. Their value is that they give the native point of view, although, indeed, the writers were probably favorable to the Raj rather than to the mutineers. From the same publishing house there is coming a volume of "Travels and Life in Ashanti," by Mr. Austin Freeman. He is well qualified, by personal observation and experience, to write of Ashantiland and its people. The book will have pictures by Mr. Freeman, and maps.

The late Mr. Henry Seebohm, author of "Siberia in Europe," &c., left at his death the MSS., a "Monograph of the Turdidæ," or thrushes, a family of birds which he studied for twenty years. Nearly all the plates had been colored in view of publication. Messrs. Henry Sotheran and Co. have now secured the cooperation of Mr. Seebohm's old friend, Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, who was his constant companion during the preparation of the monograph, and he will superintend its publication on the lines intended by the author. It will be in imperial 4to, and will be issued to subscribers in twelve parts, each containing twelve colored plates. The plates have all been drawn by Mr. Keulemans.

Mr. Henry James has written two connected stories, which Heinemann will publish as a volume in the early summer.—Comedies and Errors is the title of a volume of stories by Mr. Henry Harland which Mr. John Lane announces.—Fortune's Gate is a story by "Alan St. Aubyn" which Messrs. Chatto will publish early in April. It may be stated that Alan St. Aubyn is a lady.—Mr. James Bowden is getting ready a couple of light shilling volumes in paper covers. One is by Mr. Fred. Whishaw, is named Bates and his Bicycle, and gives a humorous account of a cycling tour. The other has the title, The Chronicles of Mr. Pottersby, and distils the humors of suburban life. The writer is J. Hickory Wood, an obvious pseudonym.—The Keepers of the People by Mr. Edgar Jepson and the Virgin of the Sun by Mr. George Griffith, are two romances which will be published next month by Messrs Pearsons.

Messrs. Longmans have in the press a biography of W. G. Wills; Poet, Dramatist, and Painter, by his brother the Rev. Freeman Wills.—Professor Knapp's Life of George Borrow is not likely to be ready until the autumn. It will contain much wholly new material.—The volume in which Mr. A. S. Boyd has illustrated Stevenson's Lowden Sabbath Morn is promised by Messrs. Chatto for April 5.—One of Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton's early publications will be Professor Gordon Blaikie's life of Principal Brown, who died last year.

Messrs. Kegan Paul are to have ready shortly A Critical Examination of Butler's Analogy, by the Rev. Henry Hughes. Messrs. Williams and Norgate will issue shortly a revised and partially rewritten edition of of A Study of the Saviour in the Newer Light, by Alexander Robinson, formerly minister of Kilmun. On the publication of the first edition of this work the author was charged with heresy, and finally was deposed from the minister. Fashions and Fancies is the title of a new twopenny monthly, to be brought out next month by Messrs. Newnes. In the Eighteenth Century Letters series of Messrs. Innes, edited by Mr. R. Brimley Johnson, the next volume will deal with Burns, Cowper, and Fanny Burney, with an introduction by Profeseor Dowden.

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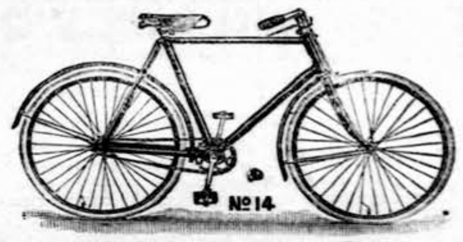

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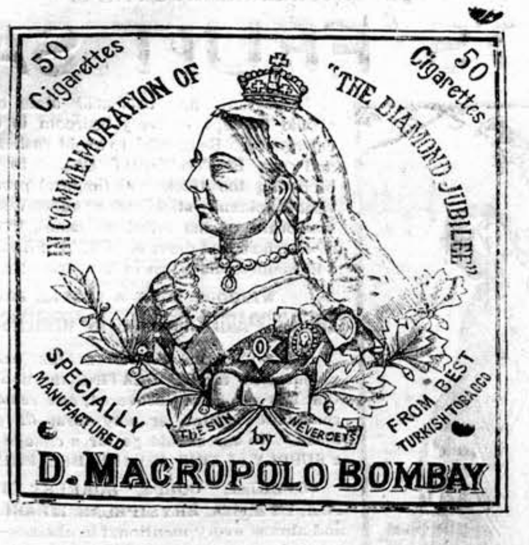

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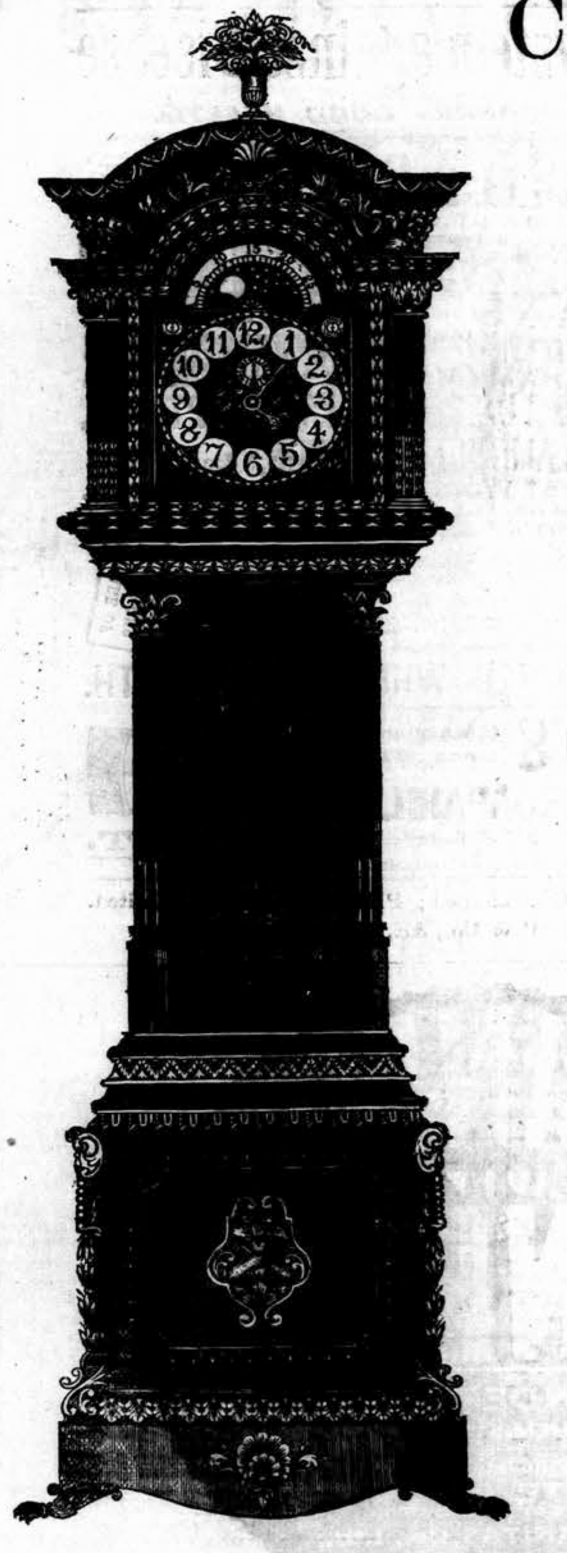

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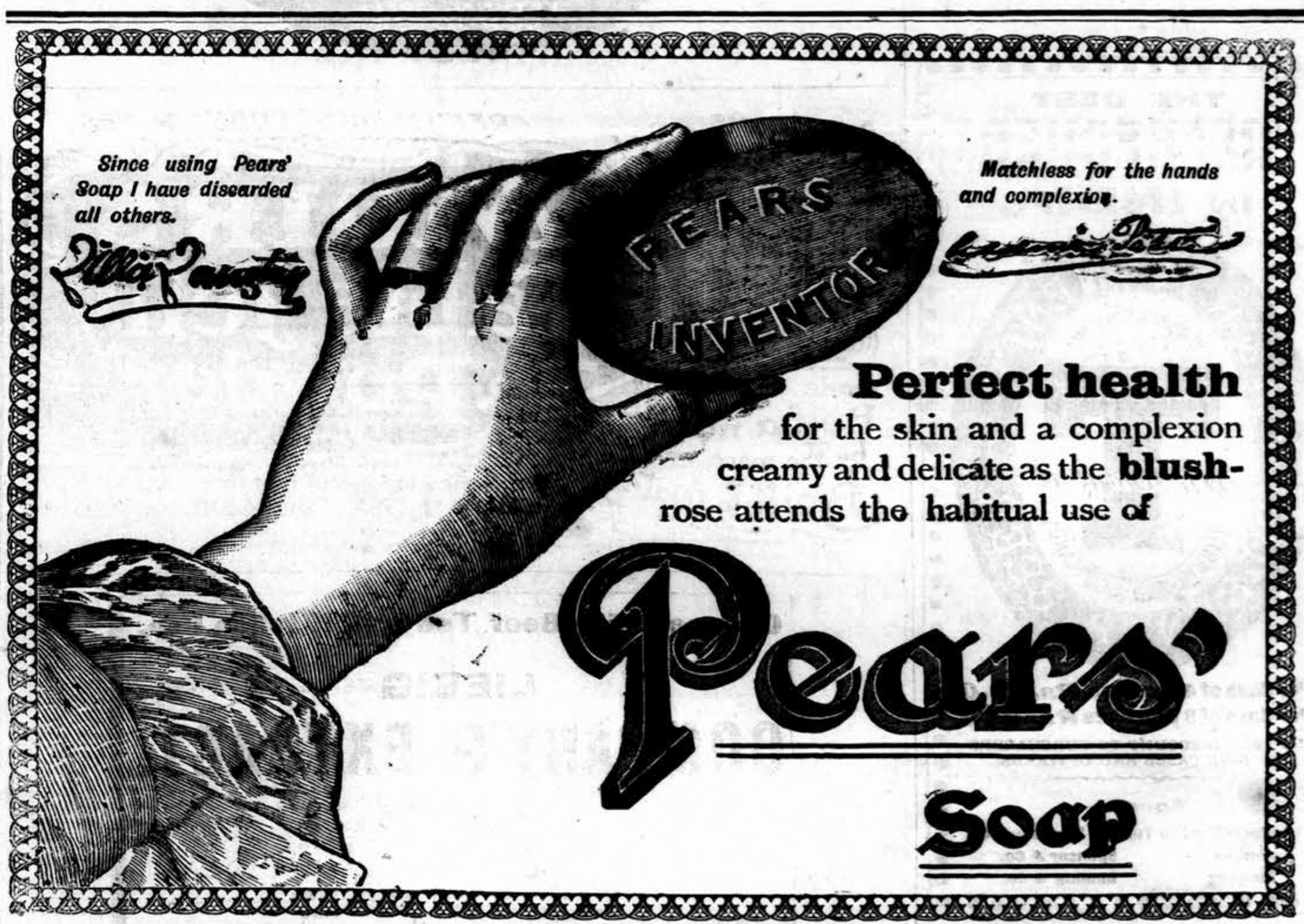

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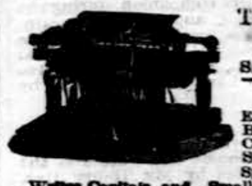

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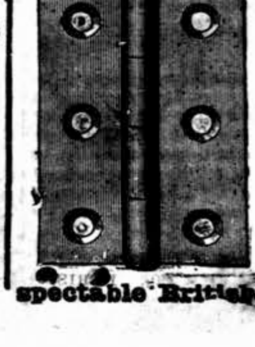

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